COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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AN ELECTRONIC INVESTIGATION OF)	
HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS)	
OFFERED BY INVESTOR-OWNED UTILITIES)	CASE NO. 2019-00366
PURSUANT TO KRS 278.285(4))	

RESPONSE OF
LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
AND
KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY
TO COMMISSION STAFF'S POST-FORMAL
CONFERENCE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO PARTIES
DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2020

FILED: MARCH 6, 2020

VERIFICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)
)
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON)

The undersigned, **Timothy Melton**, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is Manager – Customer Commitment for LG&E and KU Services Company, and that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the responses for which he is identified as the witness, and the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

Timothy Melton

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and before said County and State, this day of 2020.

Votary Public

Notary Public, ID No. 603967

My Commission Expires:

7/11/2022

VERIFICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY	,
COUNTY OF IEEEEDSON	,
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON	

The undersigned, **Eileen L. Saunders**, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is Vice President, Customer Services for Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company and an employee of LG&E and KU Services Company, and that she has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the responses for which she is identified as the witness, and the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of her information, knowledge and belief.

Eileen L. Saunders

Notary Public

Notary Public, ID No. 603967

My Commission Expires:

7/11/2022

Case No. 2019-00366

Question No. 1

- Q-1. Columbia Kentucky, Delta, Duke Kentucky, LG&E, KU, and Kentucky Power, respectively, shall provide the following information for January 1, 2015, until December 31, 2019. If a utility has both electric and gas residential customers, provide the information requested for electric residential customers, gas residential customers, and the total number of residential customers.
 - a. Total number of residential customers for each year.
 - b. Monthly and annual totals of service termination notices issued to residential customers only for non-payment of bills.
 - c. Monthly and annual totals of service termination for residential customers only for non-payment of bills.
 - d. Monthly and annual total amount of unique residential customers issued service termination notices for non-payment of bills.
 - e. Monthly and annual total amount of unique residential customers with service terminated for non-payment of bills.
- A-1. See attachments provided in Excel format.

The attachments are being provided in separate files in Excel format.

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Question No. 2

- Q-2. For each month from January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2019, Columbia Kentucky, Delta, Duke Kentucky, LG&E, KU, and Kentucky Power, respectively, should provide the total number of LIHEAP recipients, HEA recipients and customers who received both LIHEAP and HEA benefits.
- A-2. See attached provided in Excel format.

The attachment is being provided in a separate file in Excel format.

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Question No. 3

- Q-3. For each month from January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2019, Columbia Kentucky, Delta, Duke Kentucky, LG&E, KU, and Kentucky Power, respectively, should provide the monthly total average residential bill that includes the cost of current service and arrearages. For utilities that provide gas and electric service, break out the amounts by gasonly, electric-only, and combined gas and electric customers.
- A-3. The total monthly amount billed for a customer was used to calculate the averages. If a residential customer's account includes a GS service for a detached garage and/or an outdoor light, the charges for the GS service and/or outdoor light will be included in the total amount billed. The total amount billed is either the budget amount, if the customer participates in the Company's budget payment plan, or the sum of many items including current charges, arrearages, overpayments, late payment charges, and installment plan agreement. See attached provided in Excel format.

The attachment is being provided in a separate file in Excel format.

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Question No. 4

Witness: Eileen L. Saunders / Timothy A. Melton

- Q-4. Columbia Kentucky, Delta, Duke Kentucky, LG&E, KU, and Kentucky Power, respectively, should explain how its process currently in place for disconnection of residential service for non-payment complies with the applicable sections of 807 KAR 5:006, Sections 14 and 15. Provide sample bills or inserts that evidence compliance with those applicable sections.
- A-4. The Companies' process currently in place for disconnection of residential service for non-payment complies with the applicable sections of 807 KAR 5:006, Sections 14 and 15.

Any numeric references in bold parentheses made in the "Companies' Compliance" column in the table below refer to notes found in attachment 1.

Applicable 807 KAR 5:006 Section	Companies' Compliance			
Section 14(5) Advance termination notice. If advance termination notice is required, the termination notice shall be mailed or otherwise delivered to the customer's last known address. The termination notice shall be in writing, distinguishable and separate from a bill.	Companies' disconnection notices are sent to the last known mailing address for the customer. The disconnection notice sections normally colored red (KU) or green (LG&E) on a bill are instead colored brown (1).			
(a) The termination notice shall plainly state the reason for termination, that the termination date shall not be affected by receipt of a subsequent bill, and that the customer has the right to dispute the reasons for termination.	The notices plainly state: - the reason for disconnection (2) and; - that the termination date will not be affected by receipt of a subsequent bill (3). The notices provide a number for the customer to call if they disagree with the reason that service was terminated (4).			

Applicable Section	Companies' Compliance
Section 15(1)(f) For nonpayment of bills. A utility may terminate service at a point of delivery for nonpayment of charges incurred for utility service at that point of delivery. A utility shall not terminate service to any person contracting for service for nonpayment of bills for any tariffed charge without first having mailed or otherwise delivered an advance termination notice which complies with the requirements of Section 14(5) of this administrative regulation.	Please see the response to Section 14(5).
Section 15(1)(f)1.a. Each electric or gas utility proposing to terminate customer service for nonpayment shall mail or otherwise deliver to that customer ten (10) days' written notice of intent to terminate.	The Companies give at least 10 days' written notice of intent to terminate. Please refer to (5) and attachment 2.
Section 15(1)(f)1.b. Service shall not, for any reason, be terminated before twenty-seven (27) days after the mailing date of the original unpaid bill.	The Companies do not terminate service before twenty-seven (27) days after the mailing date of the original unpaid bill. Please refer to attachment 2.
Section 15(1)(f)1.c. The termination notice to residential customers shall include written notification to the customer of the existence of local, state, and federal programs providing for the payment of utility bills under certain conditions, and of the address and telephone number of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (or its designee) to contact for possible assistance.	The Companies disconnection notices make customers aware of local, state, and federal programs providing for the payment of utility bills under certain conditions (6). The Companies also provide the address and telephone number of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (or its designee) to contact for possible assistance (7).

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Attachment 1 to Response to PSC Post-Formal Conference Question No. 4 Page 1 of 4

Saunders/Melton



(2) - Reason for

(1) - Different Color from **Bills**

DELINQUENT AMOUNT DUE \$652.58

Mailed 3/2/20 for Account #

FINAL PAY DATE 3/12/20

Account Name: Service Address:

(5) - At Least 10 Days' **Written Notice**

Online Payments:

lge-ku.com

Telephone Payments:

(800) 981-0600, press 1-2-3 24 hours a day; \$2.00 fee

Customer Service:

(800) 981-0600 M-F, 7am-7pm ET

Walk-in Center:

2201 Cumberland Avenue Middlesboro, KY 40965

M-F, 9am-5pm ET

Disconnection DISCONNECTION NOTICE

> Your account is past due. If the Delinquent Amount Due is not received by the Final Pay Date, your service will be subject to disconnection.

Reconnection: Your service will be reconnected within 24 hours after verification of full payment of the Delinguent Amount Due. A reconnect fee and a new or additional deposit will be required as a condition of reconnection.

Unauthorized reconnection of service is punishable by law.



CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

If you are unable to pay the total delinquent amount by the final pay date, call our Customer Service department. You may also contact the Commonwealth of Kentucky's Cabinet for Families and Children at 800-372-2973 for information about the availability of local, state or federal programs for assistance.

If you need financial assistance during the heating season, please contact one of the Community Assistance Agencies near you, listed on the back of this notice.



PAYMENT OPTIONS

Full payment of the delinquent amount due can be made:

- Call 800-981-0600 and press 1-2-3. Payment can be made 24 hours a day with credit card, debit card or electronic check (\$2.00 fee for phone payments).
- Visit Ige-ku.com Payment can be made 24 hours a day with electronic check (no fee), credit card or debit card (\$2.00 fee).
- Authorized Payment Agent locations: Please present this bill at the time of payment. Please visit Ige-ku.com/locations to find an authorized payment agent location near you. If services are disconnected, please call 800-981-0600 once payment is made to have services restored.
- KU Customer Service Walk-in Center.

(3) - Effects of **Future Bills**

The Final Pay Date will not change upon receipt of future bills. If your service is disconnected and you disagree with the reason of termination, call us at 800-981-0600.

(6) - Awareness of **Available Assistance**

Delinguent Amount Due 3/12/20

\$652.58

Account # Service Address: (4) - Dispute Reasons for **Termination**

Total Amount Enclosed:

Mailing Address



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Attachment 1 to Response to PSC Post-Formal Conference Question No. 4
Page 2 of 4

Saunders/Melton



(7) - Contact Information for – Assistance CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE (Continued)

Knox County

K.C.E.O.C CAA

5448 N. US 25E Suite A Gray, KY 40734 (606) 546-3152 www.kceoc.com

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Attachment 1 to Response to PSC Post-Formal Conference Question No. 4 Page 3 of 4

Saunders/Melton



(1) - Different **Color from Bills**

DELINQUENT AMOUNT DUE \$215.42

Mailed 2/3/20 for Account #

FINAL PAY DATE

Account Name: Service Address: (5) - At Least 10 Days' **Written Notice**

(2) - Reason for **Disconnection**



Your account is past due. If the Delinquent Amount Due is not received by the Final Pay Date, your service will be subject to disconnection.

Online Payments:

lge-ku.com **Telephone Payments:**

(502) 589-1444, press 1-2-3 24 hours a day; \$2.00 fee

Customer Service: (502) 589-1444

M-F, 7am-7pm ET

Walk-in Center: 820 W. Broadway Louisville,

KY 40202

M-F, 8am-5pm ET

Reconnection: Your service will be reconnected within 24 hours after verification of full payment of the Delinguent Amount Due. A reconnect fee and a new or additional deposit will be required as a condition of reconnection.

Unauthorized reconnection of service is punishable by law.



CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

If you are unable to pay the total delinquent amount by the final pay date, call our Customer Service department. You may also contact the Commonwealth of Kentucky's Cabinet for Families and Children at 800-372-2973 for information about the availability of local, state or federal programs for assistance.

If you need financial assistance during the heating season, please contact one of the Community Assistance Agencies near you, listed on the back of this notice.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Full payment of the delinquent amount due can be made:

- Call 502-589-1444 and press 1-2-3. Payment can be made 24 hours a day with credit card, debit card or electronic check (\$2.00 fee for phone payments).
- Visit Ige-ku.com Payment can be made 24 hours a day with electronic check (no fee), credit card or debit card (\$2.00 fee).
- Authorized Payment Agent locations: Please present this bill at the time of payment. Please visit Ige-ku.com/locations to find an authorized payment agent location near you. If services are disconnected, please call 502-589-1444 once payment is made to have services restored.
- LG&E Customer Service Walk-in Center.

(3) - Effects of **Future Bills**

The Final Pay Date will not change upon receipt of future bills. If your service is disconnected and you disagree with the reason of termination, call us at 502-589-1444.

(6) - Awareness of Available Assistance

(4) - Dispute Reasons for Termination

Delinguent Amount Due 2/13/20

\$215.42

Total Amount Enclosed:

a PPL company

PO Box 25211 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-5211 Account # Service Address

Mailing Address5



CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE (Continued)

West Louisville Community Ministries

3146 W. Broadway Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 409-7371

(7) - Contact **Information for Assistance**

Sister Visitors Center

2235 West Market Street Louisville, KY 40212 (502) 776-0155

Central Jefferson County

Office of Resilience and Community Services

LiHEAP Season 502-991-8391 Off Season (502) 574-1157

East Jefferson County

Office of Resilience and Community Services

4810 Exeter Ave. Louisville, KY 40218 (502) 574-1270

South Jefferson County

Office of Resilience and Community Services

7219 Dixie Hwy. Louisville, KY 40258 (502) 574-1272

Invoice and Dunning Calendar

Day	Calendar # of Days	Timeline Document Date (Account History *16 Business Days = 22 Calenda days for Invoice Due Date	
Wednesday	1	Day 1	This is the day the
Thursday	2	Day 2	invoice (bill) is sent
Friday	3	Day 3	to the customer
Saturday	4		
Sunday	5		
Monday	6	Day 4	
Tuesday	7	Day 5	
Wednesday	8	Day 6	
Thursday	9	Day 7	
Friday	10	Day 8	
Saturday	11		
Sunday	12		
Monday	13	Day 9	
Tuesday	14	Day 10	
Wednesday	15	Day 11	

Day	Calendar	Timeline Document Date (Account Histo	ory)
Day	# of Days	*16 Business Days = 22 Calen days for Invoice Due Date	
Thursday	16	Day 12	
Friday	17	Day 13	
Saturday	18		
Sunday	19		
Monday	20	Day 14	This is the day the invoice (bill) is due
Tuesday	21	Day 15	invoice (bin) is due
Wednesday	22	Day 16 Invoice Due Date = 22 Calendar Days	Late Payment
Thursday	23	Day 1 LPC Posts	Charge (LPC)
Friday	24	Day 2 Disc Notice Mailed + 8 Bus Days = Disc Notice Due Date	iness
Saturday	25		Disconnection Notice Mailed to Customer
Sunday	26		
Monday	27	Day 1	
Tuesday	28	Day 2	
Wednesday	29	Day 3	
Thursday	30	Day 4	
Friday	31	Day 5	
Saturday	32		
Sunday	33		

Invoice and Dunning Calendar

Day	Calendar # of Days	Timeline Document Date (Account History) *16 Business Days = 22 Calendar days for Invoice Due Date		
Monday	34	Day 6		
Tuesday	35	Day 7		
Wednesday	36	Day 8 Disc Notice Due Date		
	Disconnection Notice Due at 36th Calenda Day after the last invoice (bill) was mailed	Disconnection Notice		

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Question No. 5

- Q-5. Confirm that a customer can only receive Wintercare if they have received a disconnect notice from the utility.
- A-5. CAC confirmed that customers may have a disconnect notice, but it is not required to receive WinterCare utility bill assistance. WinterCare offers a maximum benefit to eligible households of \$300 per assistance period (October 1-May 31) which may be used for current service, deposits and reconnection fees.

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Question No. 14

Witness: Eileen L. Saunders / Timothy A. Melton

- Q-14. The purpose of the Affordable Energy Corporation (AEC) is to increase the affordability of a customer's utilities. Explain whether the affordability measure, or the percent of utility bill for income, has ever been readjusted. If so, explain the amount of and the reasons for the readjustment.
- A-14. Yes, the affordability measure was adjusted in 2016. AEC confirmed their Board of Directors made the decision to adjust the Utility Affordability percentiles due to increased cost of living and utility costs.

The Percent of Affordability changed as follows for all household sizes:

Household Size	2007	2016
1	12%	10%
2	10%	8%
3	9%	7%
4	8%	6%
5	7.5%	5.5%
6	7%	5%
7	6.5%	4.5%
8	6%	4%
9	5.5%	3.5%
10+	5%	3%

In 2007, the benefit levels were set at \$200, \$400, \$700 or \$1,000. In 2016, the AEC Board of Directors made the decision to adjust the benefit tier levels to \$400, \$600, \$800, or \$1,000 to address the amount needed for household stability.

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Question No. 15

- Q-15. Provide the following information by month for each month between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2019.
 - a. The average monthly residential bill for electric-only customers.
 - b. The average monthly residential bill for gas-only customers.
 - c. The average monthly residential bill for combined gas and electric customers.
- A-15. LG&E information is provided in attached Excel document. The current monthly amount billed for a customer was used to calculate the averages. The current amount billed includes all charges for customers on:
 - Electric Tariff Sheet No. 5 Residential Service
 - Electric Tariff Sheet No. 6 Residential Time-of-Day Energy Service,
 - Electric Tariff Sheet No. 7 Residential Time-of-Day Demand Service
 - Gas Tariff Sheet No. 5 Residential Gas Service.

The attachment is being provided in a separate file in Excel format.

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Question No. 16

Witness: Eileen L. Saunders / Timothy A. Melton

- Q-16. Refer to LG&E's response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information, Item 10. Provide the averages requested in subparts b and c broken out by residential gas-only, electric-only and combined gas and electric.
- A-16. LG&E information is provided in attached Excel document.

The current monthly amount billed for a customer was used to calculate the averages. The current amount billed includes all charges for customers on:

- Electric Tariff Sheet No. 5 Residential Service
- Electric Tariff Sheet No. 6 Residential Time-of-Day Energy Service
- Electric Tariff Sheet No. 7 Residential Time-of-Day Demand Service
- Gas Tariff Sheet No. 5 Residential Gas Service.

The attachment is being provided in a separate file in Excel format.

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Question No. 17

- Q-17. Provide the average administration fee paid to Wintercare and the percent of this payment as compared to total funds distributed to Wintercare for the last three years.
- A-17. The information provided is for LG&E's Community Winterhelp program.

		<u>Utility</u>				Admin Costs	Admin Costs
	Customer	Donation /	Total Amount	Customer	<u>Admin</u>	(% of funds	(% of funds
<u>Year</u>	Donations	Contribution	Collected	Benefits	<u>Costs</u>	Collected)	Disbursed)
2017	\$118,373	\$118,373	\$236,746	\$224,470	\$11,850	5.0%	5.3%
2018	\$120,269	\$150,750	\$271,019	\$243,738	\$11,850	4.4%	4.9%
2019	\$111,832	\$111,832	\$223,664	\$234,612	\$11,850	5.3%	5.1%

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Question No. 18

- Q-18. State whether legal fees incurred by Community Action Council of Lexington-Fayette, Bourbon, Harrison, and Nicholas Counties, Inc., as a result of intervening in KU's rate cases since 2014, were included in HEA administrative fees charged to and paid by KU.
- A-18. CAC confirmed it has never used any funds from KU to pay legal fees to intervene in KU rate cases.