COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC JOINT APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY AND LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND SITE COMPATIBILITY CERTIFICATES AND APPROVAL OF A DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN

CASE NO. 2022-00402

JOINT PETITION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AND KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY <u>FOR CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTION</u>

Louisville Gas and Electric Company ("LG&E") and Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") (collectively "Companies") petition the Public Service Commission of Kentucky ("Commission") pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 13 to grant confidential protection for certain information the Companies are providing in their supplemental response to Commission Staff's First Request for Information ("PSC") Item No. 106. In support of this Joint Petition, the Companies state as follows:

Confidential or Proprietary Commercial Information (KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1))

1. The Kentucky Open Records Act exempts from disclosure certain records which if openly disclosed would permit an unfair commercial advantage to competitors of the entity that disclosed the records.¹ Public disclosure of the information identified herein would, in fact, prompt such a result for the reasons set forth below.

2. In their supplemental response to PSC 1-106, the Companies are providing two Excel files to supplement the workpapers previously provided in Exhibit LI-6. The Companies

 $^{^{1}}$ KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1).

are requesting confidential protection for the two Excel files for the same reasons the Companies sought confidential protection for certain files in Exhibit LI-6 in their Petition for Confidential Protection filed December 15, 2022. These files contain detailed system parameter values and timing information that provide a high level of detail of the Companies' system, particularly their projected hourly marginal cost of energy and their projected firm gas transportation costs. This information was developed internally by Companies' personnel, is not on file with any public agency, and is distributed within the Companies only to those employees who must have access for business reasons. The disclosure of this information may disadvantage the Companies in the wholesale energy market and in negotiations for firm gas transportation service if others are aware of the Companies' detailed calculations for avoided capacity costs and expectations of costs for such service.

Confidential Information Subject to this Petition

3. The information for which the Companies are seeking confidential treatment is not known outside of LG&E and KU, their consultants with a need to know the information, and the Companies' counsel, is not disseminated within LG&E and KU except to those employees with a legitimate business need to know and act upon the information, and is generally recognized as confidential and proprietary information in the energy industry.

4. The Commission has consistently given confidential treatment to similar information in previous cases.²

5. The Companies will disclose the confidential information, pursuant to a confidentiality agreement, to intervenors with a legitimate interest in this information and as required by the Commission.

² See, e.g., Case Nos. 2020-00349 and 2020-00350, Order (PSC Ky. Dec. 7, 2021) (granting confidential protection for fuel prices and variable O&M data); *Electronic 2018 Joint Integrated Resource Plan of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company*, Case No. 2018-00348, Order (Ky. PSC Nov. 16, 2018).

6. If the Commission disagrees with this request for confidential protection, it must hold an evidentiary hearing (a) to protect the Companies' due process rights and (b) to supply the Commission with a complete record to enable it to reach a decision with regard to this matter.³

7. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(2)(b), the Companies are providing written notification that the entire documents are confidential. The Companies are providing the confidential files on their encrypted file-share site for the Commission's retrieval. Access to the encrypted file-share site will be provided to intervenors upon request pursuant to a confidentiality agreement.

8. The Companies request that confidential protection be granted for five years due to the sensitive nature of the information at issue.

WHEREFORE, Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company respectfully request that the Commission grant confidential protection for all of the information described herein.

Dated: April 17, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

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³ Utility Regulatory Commission v. Kentucky Water Service Company, Inc., 642 S.W.2d 591, 592-94 (Ky. App. 1982).

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

In accordance with the Commission's Order of July 22, 2021 in Case No. 2020-00085 (Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19), this is to certify that the electronic filing has been transmitted to the Commission on April 17, 2023, and that there are currently no parties in this proceeding that the Commission has excused from participation by electronic means.

- Julie R Rigos

Counsel for Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company