

May 2, 2024

Mr. Philip Imber Louisville Gas & Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company 1920 Louisville Rd. Harrodsburg, KY 40330 philip.imber@lge-ku.com

## *RE:* Setback Clarification/Correction for the Site Assessment Report and Cumulative Environmental Assessment Prepared for the Mercer County Photo-Voltaic Solar Generating Facility

Dear Mr. Imber:

This letter outlines a minor clarification/correction to be incorporated into the Site Assessment Report (SAR) and Cumulative Environmental Assessment (CEA) dated November 6, 2023, which was prepared for Louisville Gas & Electric Company's and Kentucky Utilities Company's (collectively LKE's) proposed Mercer County Photo-Voltaic Solar Generating Facility.

At the time the SAR/CEA was being developed, Mercer County was in the process of updating their county-wide Zoning Ordinances, including requirements specific to "Solar Energy System (SES) & Solar Energy Facilities (SEF)" (see Article XV of the Zoning Ordinance). Therefore, in order to ensure the SAR/CEA is consistent with the updated Mercer County Zoning Ordinance, as adopted on June 27, 2023, we request that Section 2.7 ("Compliance with Setback Requirements (KRS 278.704 (2-5))") be revised to state the following:

## 2.7 Compliance with Setback Requirements (KRS 278.704 (2-5))

The Mercer County Fiscal Court has adopted a zoning ordinance proposed by the Greater Harrodsburg/Mercer County Planning and Zoning Commission that establishes setback requirements for solar facilities. However, those setback requirements do not apply to the Mercer County Solar Facility because KRS 100.324 states that public utilities, which are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, are not required to receive approval of a planning unit for the location of service facilities, and KRS 278.216(5) states that nothing in the statute requiring a site compatibility certificate from the Commission shall be construed to limit this exception. Since LG&E and KU (collectively LKE) are public utilities as defined in KRS 278.010(3)(a), and the Mercer County Solar Facility is a service facility as described in KRS 100.324(1), they are not required to obtain approval of the local planning unit. Therefore, the requirements of the local ordinance are inapplicable. This does not mean that that there are no setback requirements. For LKE applications for site compatibility certificates under KRS 278.216 for solar generation, the setback requirements set forth in KRS 278.704(2) are applicable. We note, however, that the Commission has the authority to allow deviations from those requirements pursuant to KRS 278.216(4).

We request that this errata letter be appended to the existing SAR/CEA report dated November 6, 2023, and that the language presented above supersedes the information previously presented in

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Section 2.7 of the document. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions or comments about the information presented in this letter, please do not hesitate to inquire.

Sincerely,

TRINITY CONSULTANTS

David E.B. Strohm II Principal Consultant