

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF DUKE	)	
ENERGY KENTUCKY, INC. FOR A	)	
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE	)	CASE NO. 2024-00119
AND NECESSITY TO BID ON A FRANCHISE	)	
TO SERVE THE CITY OF SOUTHGATE,	)	
KENTUCKY	)	

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APPLICATION

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Comes now Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. (“Duke Energy Kentucky” or “Company”), by counsel, pursuant to KRS 278.020(4), 807 KAR 5:001, Section 15(1), 807 KAR 5:001 Section 14 and other applicable law, and tenders hereby its application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to apply for and obtain franchises from the city of Southgate, in Campbell County, Kentucky (“Southgate”), to provide electricity and natural gas transmission and distribution services, respectfully stating as follows:

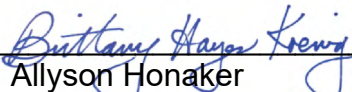
1. Duke Energy Kentucky is a Kentucky corporation, originally incorporated on March 20, 1901, that is in good standing and operating as a combined electric and natural gas utility serving approximately 240,000 customers in six Kentucky counties. Duke Energy Kentucky’s business address is 139 East Fourth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 and its local address is 1262 Cox Road, Erlanger, Kentucky, 41018. The Company’s email address is [KyFilings@duke-energy.com](mailto:KyFilings@duke-energy.com). Duke Energy Kentucky held a franchise for the use of the City streets, alleys and public grounds to provide electricity and natural gas

- transmission and distribution facilities and services within the territorial limits of Southgate. However, that franchise has expired.
2. Duke Energy Kentucky proposes to bid upon a new municipal franchise to place electricity and natural gas transmission and distribution facilities in public streets and places of Southgate and to provide related service to Southgate. The new franchise will be awarded by the Southgate City Council.
  3. The Southgate City Council has passed Ordinances setting forth the requirements and deadlines for submitting a bid to secure new franchises. Southgate has directed that bids shall be received by June 22, 2024. A copy of the Ordinance for the electric and natural gas franchise is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference. A copy of the Legal Notice that was published by Southgate regarding said new franchise is attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated herein by reference.
  4. As evidenced by the Ordinance, there is, and will continue to be, a demand and need for the facilities and services sought to be rendered by Duke Energy Kentucky pursuant to the franchise.
  5. Upon obtaining a franchise from Southgate, Duke Energy Kentucky will file a true and correct copy of same with the Commission.

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, Duke Energy Kentucky respectfully requests the Commission to approve this application and to issue to Duke Energy Kentucky a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing it to apply for and obtain an electric and natural gas franchise from Southgate, as set forth herein.

This the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Brittany Hayes Koenig  
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and

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Larisa M. Vaysman  
Duke Energy Business Services, LLC  
139 East Fourth Street/1303-Main  
P.O. Box 960 Cincinnati, OH 45202  
(513) 287-4320  
Rocco.D'Ascenzo@duke-energy.com  
Larisa.Vaysman@duke-energy.com

*Counsel for Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc.*

EXHIBIT A

CITY OF SOUTHGATE, KENTUCKY  
ORDINANCE NO. 24-04

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTHGATE, KENTUCKY ESTABLISHING A NON-EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE FOR THE USE OF THE PUBLIC STREETS, ALLEYS AND OTHER PUBLIC GROUNDS OF THE CITY FOR THE TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRICITY AND GAS THROUGH AND FOR CONSUMPTION WITHIN THE CITY; AND PROVIDING THE TERMS THEREOF.**

**WHEREAS**, Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. ("Duke Energy") is a public utility subject to the provisions of Sections 163 and 164 of the Kentucky Constitution and KRS 96.010 through 96.045; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 163 of the Kentucky Constitution prohibits public utilities from using the streets, alleys and other public grounds within a city without a franchise for that use; and

**WHEREAS**, Duke Energy currently has access to the streets, alleys and public grounds of the City of Southgate, Kentucky ("City") for the transmission and distribution of electricity through and for consumption within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, Duke Energy has a franchise which is in its final year for the use of City streets, alleys, and public grounds for the transmission and distribution of electricity through and for consumption within the City; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, for the purpose of complying with the Constitution and Revised Statutes of Kentucky and pursuant to the authority and requirements of Sections 163 and 164 of the Kentucky Constitution and KRS 96.010 through 96.045:

**BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Southgate, Kentucky as follows:**

**Section 1 – Definitions**

As used herein, the following words and phrases have the meanings indicated for them:

1.1 The word "City" means the City of Southgate, Kentucky in Campbell County, Kentucky.

1.2 The words "Continuing Default" mean a default lasting for a period of more than thirty (30) consecutive calendar days.

1.3 The word "Facilities" means the tangible apparatus, equipment and instrumentalities and the appurtenances thereto used for the transmission and distribution of electricity through and within Public Property in the City, including, without limitation, poles, wires, cables, cross-arms, conduits, anchors, junction boxes, manholes, mains, pipes and valves.

## EXHIBIT A

1.4 The word "Franchisee" means the person to whom the City has awarded and granted a franchise hereby established.

1.5 The words "Public Property" mean real estate in the City of Southgate, Kentucky that has been dedicated or is otherwise open to public use and is subject to regulation by the City of Southgate, Kentucky.

### **Section 2 – Franchise**

There is hereby established a non-exclusive franchise for the use of the Public Property within the City for the transmission and distribution of electricity for consumption both within and outside of the City.

### **Section 3 – Terms of Franchise**

As required by KRS 96.010, the terms and conditions of the franchise hereby established are as follows:

#### **3.1 Bidding Requirement**

Pursuant to Section 164 of the Kentucky Constitution, before granting the franchise hereby established, the City shall first, after due advertisement, receive bids publicly, and award it to the highest and best bidder; but the City shall have the right to reject any and all bids.

#### **3.2 Bond Requirement**

Pursuant to the requirements of KRS 96.020(1), each bid for the franchise hereby established shall include cash or a certified check equal to five percent (5%) of the fair estimated cost of the plant required to render the service. The deposit shall be forfeited to the City in case the bid is accepted and the bidder fails, for thirty (30) days after the confirmation of the sale, to pay the price bid and to give a sufficient bond in a sum equal to one-fourth (1/4) of the fair estimated cost of the plant to be erected. The bond shall be conditioned to be enforceable in case the person giving it fails, within a reasonable time, to establish a suitable plant for rendering the service and begin rendering the service in the manner set forth in the terms of the sale; provided, however, that pursuant to the provisions of KRS 96.020(2), this Section 3.2 shall not apply to a person already owning a plant and equipment sufficient to render the service required under the franchise hereby established.

#### **3.3 Reservation of Rights**

The City hereby reserves all of the rights reserved to cities of home rule as set forth in KRS Chapter 96 and within the meaning thereof; and the City shall have all of the rights,

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privileges and authority established thereby; and the Franchisee shall comply with all of the lawful exercise thereof by the City and with all other laws, rules and regulations of all governmental agencies having jurisdiction thereof.

### 3.4 Franchise Non-exclusive

The franchise hereby established is not an exclusive franchise. It is a non-exclusive franchise; and the City reserves the right to also grant the franchise hereby established to others in accordance with the Kentucky Certified Service Territories Act at KRS 278.016, *et seq.* and other applicable law.

### 3.5 Franchise Not Assignable

The franchise established hereby shall not be assignable without the written consent of the City; however, the Franchisee may assign the franchise to any corporate parent, subsidiary or affiliate which may, during the term of the franchise, assume the obligation to provide electricity throughout and for consumption within the City without being required to seek the City's consent to such assignment.

### 3.6 Franchise Area

The franchise established hereby shall be for the use of those portions of the Public Property within the City that are included in the territory for which the Franchisee has been certified by the Public Service Commission of Kentucky pursuant to KRS Chapter 278, or which it currently serves.

### 3.7 Effective Period of Franchise

The franchise established hereby shall be effective for a period of five (5) years, from the first day of the calendar month following the grant and award of a franchise hereby established to a Franchisee, unless previously terminated by the City pursuant to the provisions hereof or as otherwise provided by operation of law.

### 3.8 Franchise Termination

In the event of any Continuing Default by the Franchisee of any of the obligations of the franchise, and after a written notice and description thereof has been delivered to the Franchisee by the City by certified mail, return receipt requested, and upon the failure of the Franchisee to reasonably cure the default within a reasonable period of time, the City may terminate the franchise awarded and granted to the Franchisee through a written notice thereof to the Franchisee, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to be effective no less than ninety (90) days from delivery of said notice.

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### 3.9 Franchisee Rights and Privileges During Effective Period

During the term of the franchise, the Franchisee may engage in the following activities; but always subject to the rights reserved by the City pursuant to the provisions of the previous Section 3.3 hereof:

#### 3.9.1 Continuation of Existing Facilities

The continued operation, use, maintenance, repair, construction and/or re-construction to the existing condition thereof all of the Facilities of the Franchisee within or upon any Public Property within the City.

#### 3.9.2 New Facilities

The Franchisee shall provide commercially reasonable notice of any non-emergency extension or expansion of any existing Facilities of the Franchisee, or the construction or installation of new Facilities within the franchise area and the plans and specifications for such new Facilities to the City. The Franchisee shall abide by the City's permitting process and receive necessary approval thereof by the Mayor or the designee thereof, which approval shall not be withheld unless the extension, expansion, construction or installation described in those plans and specifications is contrary to the public health, safety, welfare and convenience. In the event that any request for the extension or expansion of any existing Facilities of the Franchisee or the construction or installation of new Facilities of the Franchisee is denied by the Mayor or his designee, such denial shall be set forth in writing with the basis of the denial set forth therein within thirty (30) days of the Franchisee's notice. If written denial or approval is not received within thirty (30) days of the Franchisee's notice, the extension, expansion, construction or installation request shall be deemed approved. The City acknowledges that the Franchisee has a statutory duty to provide adequate, efficient and reasonable service and that the Franchisee shall not be prevented from fulfilling that statutory obligation due to any delay by the Mayor or the designee thereof in giving, or failing to give, any approval described herein. The Franchisee shall not be required to pay any fee to apply for, or obtain, any permit required by this section.

#### 3.9.3 Pavement Removal, Excavation and Grading

The Franchisee shall provide commercially reasonable notice of any non-emergency removal or revision of any pavement and any excavation and grading reasonably necessary within any Public Property in the franchise area and the plans and specifications for such new Facilities to the City. The Franchisee shall abide by the City's permitting process and receive necessary approval thereof by the Mayor or the designee thereof, which approval shall not be withheld unless the proposed pavement removal, excavation or grading is contrary to the public health, safety, welfare and convenience. In the event that any request for pavement removal or revision, excavation or grading is denied by the Mayor or his designee, such denial shall be set forth in writing with the basis of the denial set forth therein within thirty (30) days of the Franchisee's notice. If a written denial or approval is not received within thirty (30) days, the removal or revision of any pavement and any excavation and grading shall be deemed

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approved. The City acknowledges that the Franchisee has a statutory duty to provide adequate, efficient and reasonable service and that the Franchisee shall not be prevented from fulfilling that statutory obligation due to any delay by the Mayor or the designee thereof in giving, or failing to give, any approval described herein. The Franchisee shall not be required to pay any fee to apply for, or obtain, any permit required by this section.

### 3.9.4 Right-of-Way Maintenance

The Franchisee shall have the right, without payment of fees over and above the franchise fee, to cut, trim or remove any trees, overhanging branches or other obstructions on Public Property which in the reasonable opinion of the Franchisee may endanger or interfere with the efficient installation or maintenance of Facilities. If, during the franchise period, the City closes to public use any Public Property in or on which Facilities of the Franchisee are located, the City shall make such provisions as may be legal and necessary to grant the Franchisee the right to retain the Facilities thereof within that Public Property, along with the rights to maintain and operate such facilities.

### 3.9.5 Other Activities

All other activities that are reasonably necessary for the use by the Franchisee of the Public Property within the franchise area pursuant to the provisions of the franchise hereby established, or for any lawful purpose.

### 3.10 Franchisee Obligations During Effective Period

While this franchise is effective the Franchisee shall:

#### 3.10.1 Surety Bond

Provide the City with and continually maintain a surety bond with (a) the City as the Obligee; and (b) the Franchisee as the Principle; and (c) a surety approved by the Mayor of the City, in an amount equal to \$50,000.00, conditioned upon the faithful performance by the Franchisee of the terms and conditions of the franchise hereby established; provided, however, that this requirement may be waived by the Mayor or the designee thereof upon the reasonable satisfaction thereof with the net worth of the Franchisee.

#### 3.10.2 Liability Insurance

Provide the City with and continually maintain a comprehensive policy of liability insurance, with the Franchisee and the City as named insureds, and with limits not less than \$500,000.00 per person and \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence, by which the Franchisee and the City are insured against any legal liability to others that is in any way related to any acts or omissions of the Franchisee pursuant to the franchise hereby established; provided, however, that this requirement may be waived by the Mayor or the designee thereof upon the reasonable satisfaction thereof with the net worth of the Franchisee.



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### 3.10.3 Provision of Gas and Electricity

Provide gas and electric to the consumers thereof within the City that is no less in character, quantity and geographical area than that provided at the time a franchise established hereby is granted and awarded to the Franchisee; and also equal to and no less in character and quantity than that provided to consumers thereof outside of the City and according to the same terms, conditions, rates, charges and costs as approved by the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Commission").

### 3.10.4 Maintenance of Facilities

Cause the Facilities of the Franchisee within the franchise area to be maintained and repaired to a condition that is functional and safe and not a hazard to the public health, safety, welfare and convenience.

### 3.10.5 Prosecution of Work

During the construction, maintenance, repair, replacement, re-construction, expansion, extension, new construction or installation of any of the Facilities of the Franchisee, the Franchisee shall promptly and diligently prosecute such activities to completion within a reasonable time, and at the least possible hazard to the public health, safety, convenience and general welfare; and, upon completion thereof, the Public Property of the City in which those activities occurred shall be restored by the Franchisee to a condition that is as good or better than the condition thereof at the time of the commencement of those activities.

### 3.10.6 Relocation of Facilities

During any construction, maintenance, repair, replacement, improvement or expansion by the City of any of the Public Property within the franchise area or any improvements therein other than the Facilities of the Franchisee, or at any other time, the Franchisee shall remove, relocate or adjust any of the Facilities of the Franchisee in such Public Property within a reasonable time after a written request from the City.

### 3.10.7 Reserved Rights of the City

Comply with the exercise by the City of all of the rights thereof reserved by the City pursuant to the provisions of the previous Section 3.3 hereof.

### 3.10.8 Franchise Fee

As consideration for the rights conferred by the granting of this five year franchise, and to compensate the City for its superintendence of the franchise, the successful bidder shall pay to the City a fee of **three percent (3%)** of the gross receipts collected by the successful bidder from customers from the sale of gas and electricity within the corporate limits of the City of

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Southgate upon the following conditions:

- a. The fee shall be applicable to bills rendered to customers on and after August 1, 2024 or as soon thereafter as is possible.
- b. The fee shall be a recurring, monthly charge, and shall be remitted to the City in monthly or quarterly installments, at the option of the successful bidder.
- c. The successful bidder will reimburse the City for costs incurred by the City in advertising the bid and for publication of the necessary ordinances and for the doing of all other acts necessary to the letting of this bid.

### 3.10 Franchisee Obligations During and After Effective Period

While this franchise is effective and also thereafter, the Franchisee shall and hereby does:

#### 3.11.1 Release

Release, acquit and forever discharge the City, and all of its officers, agents, successors and assigns thereof, from each, every, and any and all obligations and liabilities thereof, jointly and severally, to the Franchisee and the successors and assigns thereof for each, every, and any and all personal injuries, property damage, costs, expenses, losses, compensation and all other damages of every kind and nature, and all claims and causes of action therefore, at law, or in equity, including, without limitation, claims of third parties for indemnification and/or contribution, which may accrue to the Franchisee and the successors and assigns thereof, through any act, omission, event or occurrence proximately caused by the negligence of the Franchisee, during the term of the franchise, which is in any way related to the franchise established hereby or the award or grant thereof to the Franchisee or the use of the public streets, alleys and other public grounds within the City by the Franchisee, pursuant to the franchise.

#### 3.11.2 Indemnification

Agree to pay, indemnify and hold the City and its officers, agents, successors and assigns thereof harmless and to defend them at the request of the City and at the sole cost and expense of the Franchisee, from each, every, any and all uninsured obligations and liabilities thereof to others and the executors, administrators, heirs, successors and assigns of such others for each, every, any and all personal injuries, property damage, costs, expenses, losses, compensation and all other damages of every kind and nature, and all claims and causes of action therefore, at law, or in equity, including, without limitation, claims of third parties for indemnification and/or contribution, which may accrue to such others and their executors, administrators, heirs, successors and assigns, through any act, omission, event or occurrence proximately caused by the negligence of the Franchisee during the term of the franchise which is related to the franchise established hereby or the award or grant thereof to the Franchisee

**EXHIBIT A**

or the use of the public streets, alleys and other public grounds within the City by the Franchisee, pursuant to the franchise.

**Section 4 – Construction**

This ordinance shall not be construed in a manner which would create an obligation, requirement or duty on the part of the Franchisee which is in any way inconsistent with Kentucky law or its tariff on file with and approved by the Commission.

**Section 5 – Conflicting Ordinances Repealed**

All other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 6 – Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall be effective as soon as possible according to law.

**Section 7 – Publication**

This ordinance shall be published in summary pursuant to K.R.S. 83A.060(9).

**APPROVED:**

  
James Hamberg, MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

  
Brandi Barton, CITY CLERK

First reading            4/3/2024  
Second reading        4/17/2024  
Third reading           5/1/2024  
Publication:            4/22/2024 & 5/3/2024

1916845.1  
222084-61975

#3045125v1

EXHIBIT B



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

See Proof on Next Page

**LINK Reader**  
**31 Innovation Aly, Ground Floor**  
**(859) 878-1669**

I, Yuade Moore, of lawful age, being duly sworn upon oath depose and say that I am an agent of Column Software, PBC, duly appointed and authorized agent of the Publisher of LINK Reader, a publication that maintains a "notice website" as that phrase is defined in the State of Kentucky (KRS 424.145), that this affidavit is Page 1 of 2 with the full text of the sworn-to notice set forth on the pages that follow, and that the attachment hereto contains the correct copy of what was published in said legal newspaper or online notice website at <https://linkreader.column.us/search>, as provided by the requirements of KRS 424, in consecutive issues on the following dates:

**PUBLICATION DATES:**

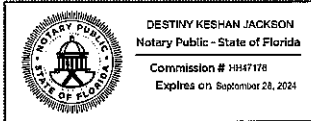
Apr. 22, 2024

**Notice ID:** ACfRB0JMpv8MndkNhFV1

**Notice Name:** RFP Gas-Electric franchise

**PUBLICATION FEE:** \$76.41

Yuade Moore  
Agent



**VERIFICATION**

State of Florida  
County of Duval

Subscribed and sworn to before me 04/23/2024

Destiny K. Jackson

Notary Public  
Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

## EXHIBIT B

### REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR THE CITY OF SOUTHGATE, KENTUCKY GAS AND ELECTRIC FRANCHISE

The Southgate, Kentucky is soliciting bids from parties interested in obtaining franchises to operate and provide gas and electric systems within the confines of the City of Southgate, Kentucky. Franchise(s) awarded pursuant to this Request for Bids will be non-exclusive and for a term of five (5) years. Bids must meet all of the requirements set forth in Ordinance No. 24-04, a copy of which may be obtained from the Clerk's office or viewed on the City website at [www.southgateky.org](http://www.southgateky.org)

Sealed bids must be received no later than 12:00 p.m. local time on June 22, at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud publicly in the office of the City Clerk for the City of Southgate, Kentucky. Sealed bid proposals should be sent to the attention of: Brandi Barton, City Clerk, City of Southgate, Kentucky 122 Electric Avenue, Southgate, KY 41071.

The City of Southgate reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject any and all bids, to waive any irregularities or informalities in awarding the franchise, and to accept what, in its discretion and judgement, is the best evaluated bid which is in the best interest of, and is most advantageous to, the City.