

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY

In the Matter of:

AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE)	
APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE)	Case No.
OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM)	2024-00141
NOVEMBER 1, 2022 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2023)	

Responses to Commission Staff's Second Request for Information dated September 10, 2024

FILED: September 23, 2024

AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2022 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2023 CASE NO. 2024-00141

VERIFICATION

I, Vicky L. Payne, verify, state, and affirm that the data request responses filed with this verification for which I am listed as a witness are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Vicky L. Payne

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)
COUNTY OF DAVIESS)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me by Vicky L. Payne on this the day of September, 2024.

Notary Public, Kentucky State at Large

Kentucky ID Number

My Commission Expires

October 31, 2024

AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM MAY 1, 2023 THROUGH OCTOBER, 2023 CASE NO. 2024-00149

VERIFICATION

I, Jeffrey S. Brown, verify, state, and affirm that the data request responses filed with this verification for which I am listed as a witness are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Jeffrey S. Brown

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)
COUNTY OF DAVIESS)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me by Jeffrey S. Brown on this the day of September 2024.

Notary Public, Kentucky State at Large

Kentucky ID Number

My Commission Expires

New 31, 2024

AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM MAY 1, 2023 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2023 CASE NO. 2024-00149

VERIFICATION

I, Terry Wright, Jr., verify, state, and affirm that the data request responses filed with this verification for which I am listed as a witness are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Terry Wright, J

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)
COUNTY OF DAVIESS)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me by Terry Wright, Jr. on this the day of September 2024.

Notary Public, Kentucky State at Large

Kentucky ID Number

My Commission Expires

AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2022 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2023 CASE NO. 2024-00141

VERIFICATION

I, Christopher A. Warren, verify, state, and affirm that the data request responses filed with this verification for which I am listed as a witness are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Christopher A. Warren

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)
COUNTY OF DAVIESS)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me by Christopher A. Warren on this the 17th day of September 2024.

Notary Public, Kentucky State at Large

Kentucky ID Number

My Commission Expires

October 31, 2024

AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2022 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2023 CASE NO. 2024-00141

Responses to Commission Staff's Second Request for Information dated September 10, 2024

1	Item 1) Refer to BREC's response to Commission Staff's First Request for
2	Information (Staff's First Request), Item 2, page 2 of 4. Explain the meaning
3	of the option coal purchases versus the contract purchases.
4	
5	Response) Under the contract agreement between American Consolidated Natural
6	Resources ("ACNR") and Big Rivers, ACNR agreed to sell and Big Rivers agreed to
7	purchase a Base Quantity Tonnage ranging from a minimum of 300,000 tons to a
8	maximum of 400,000 per year. The category of "contract purchases" in Big Rivers'
9	response to PSC 1-2 refers to fuel purchased under that Base Quantity Tonnage.
10	Also, within the contract was an option for additional tonnage, Option Quantity
11	Tonnage, if needed and available. The category of "option coal purchases" in the
12	response refers to fuel purchased under the Option Quantity Tonnage.
13	Under the contract, Big Rivers had the option not to receive, nominate, any
14	Option Tonnage. However, the Base Tonnage required at least the minimum and not
15	more than the maximum (300k-400k) each year set forth within the contract terms.
16	ACNR had an obligation to provide Base Tonnage and had discretion to accommodate
17	Big Rivers' request for Option Tonnage.

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September 23, 2024

1

2 Witness) Vicky L. Payne

3

AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2022 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2023 CASE NO. 2024-00141

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1	Item 2)	Refer to BREC's response to Staff's First Request, Item 3.
2	a.	Explain how the Duration (In Days) category is calculated
3	b.	Explain why the Number of Days' Supply far exceeds the target
4		inventory levels.
5		
6	Response)	
7	a)	The Duration (In Days) is calculated by taking the total number of In-
8	Servi	ce hours for the unit during the review period, November 1, 2022 through
9	April	30, 2023, which totaled $3,441.8$ hours. That number is then divided by 24
10	hours	to calculate days. (3,441.8 / $24 = 143.41$ days) This rounded to the nearest
11	hour	equals 143 duration days.
12	b)	Big Rivers continues to nominate maximum tonnage on all contracts to
13	utiliz	e full advantage of the lower priced contracts, while market prices
14	contir	nue to be much higher. The Number of Days' Supply above the target
15	helps	to avoid the risk of purchasing replacement tons on the open market
16	when	the pricing would be much higher than the contracts in place.

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1

2 Witness) Vicky L. Payne

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AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2022 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2023 CASE NO. 2024-00141

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1	Item 3) Refer to BREC's Response to Staff's First Request, Item 12, page 2
2	of 5. Explain whether the power purchase hedging activity for BREC Load is
3	associated with the Kentucky Municipal Energy Agency and Owensboro
4	Municipal Utilities contracts. If not, explain the reasons for the hedging
5	activity.
6	
7	Response) During the period under review, "BREC Load" referenced in Big Rivers'
8	Response to Staff's First Request, Item 12, page 2 of 5 is not associated with the
9	Owensboro Municipal Utilities or Kentucky Municipal Energy Agency contract. The
10	"Hedge Off System Sales" category is associated with the OMU contract. There were
11	no hedging transactions in the Review Period associated with KYMEA. "Hedge
12	BREC Load" refers to hedging transactions for shortfalls in our native energy
13	position.
14	
15	Witness) Terry Wright, Jr.
16	

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1	Item 4)	$Refer\ to\ BREC's\ response\ to\ Staff's\ First\ Request,\ Item\ 13,\ page\ 1.$
2	a.	Explain how lines 16 and 33 are related.
3	<i>b</i> .	Explain how lines 27, 28, and 32 are related.
4 5	Response)	
6	a)	Lines 16 and 33 on the attachment to Big Rivers' response to Staff's
7		First Request, Item 13, page 1, provide billing information related to
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15	b)	Lines 27 and 32 on the attachment to Big Rivers' response to Staff's
16		First Request, Item 13, page 1, provide billing information related the
L7		same customer.

AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2022 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2023 CASE NO. 2024-00141

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2

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5

7 Line 28 provides billing information related 8

9

Each of the customers in parts a and b above receive one retail bill from their respective distribution cooperative. The attachment provided in Big Rivers' response to Staff's First Request, Item 13, page 1, is an internal document prepared by Big Rivers staff. For visibility in its internal use, each of the customers discussed above are separated into line items that reflect the specific billing details in this internal document.

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1

2 Witness) Christopher A. ("Chris") Warren

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		•
1	Item 5)	Refer to BREC's response to Staff's First Request, Item 13 and
2	Item 23. F	For the industrial customer listed on line 28 for the months
3	December .	2022 through April 2023, there are no revenues listed under the
4	Fuel Adjus	tment Clause (FAC) or Environmental Surcharge (ES) categories
5	despite ene	rgy being consumed.
6	a.	Explain why there are no revenues billed to that industrial
7		customer.
8	b.	Explain how the FAC and ES revenues associated with the energy
9		consumed by that industrial customer were recovered.
10		
11	Response)	
12	a)	
13		
14		, as
15		discussed in the confidential response to PSC 1-22 in this case.

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1	b)	The FAC revenues associated with energy consumed by that industrial
2		customer were recovered from the Members paying the FAC during each
3		month. For the ES calculation, the revenue from this industrial
4		customer is excluded from the Member and Non-Member revenue in the
5		allocation percentage.
6		
7	Witness)	Christopher A. ("Chris") Warren
8		

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1	Item 6) Refer to BREC's response to Staff's First Request, Item 15 and
2	Item 17. For each month that the Reid Station and the two Green Station
3	units have a zero percent gross capacity factor, provide the actual number of
4	hours each unit generated power.
5	
6	Response) When the units had a zero percent gross capacity factor as shown in
7	the prior responses, the units had zero service hours for those months, February
8	2023 for Reid Station Unit Two and January and February 2023 for the Green
9	Station units.
10	
11	Witness) Jeffrey S. ("Jeff") Brown
12	

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1 Item 7) Explain whether BREC was subject to any MISO or FERC
2 Performance penalties during the review period. If so, include an
3 explanation as to why for each instance and the amount(s) of the penalties.
4
5 Response) During the period under review, November 1, 2022 through April 30,
6 2023, Big Rivers was subjected to MISO penalties related to deviations from 194
7 Failure to Follow Dispatch Flags (FFDF) and 40 Failed Mileage Performance Test
8 Flags (FMPTF)). An FFDF occurs when a unit operated outside of MISO's dispatch

- 9 thresholds for at least four consecutive 5-minute intervals within the given hour
- 10 (Dispatch Interval), causing Excessive Energy (EXE) or Deficient Energy (DFE). 1 If
- 11 the FFDF does not fall into an exemption, then MISO applies the MISO Revenue
- 12 Sufficiency Guarantee (RSG) Rate to the EXE or DFE and applies the MISO RT
- 13 Excessive Deficient Deployment Rate to the total Real-Time Billable meter (the
- 14 actual meter volume).

¹ See MISO FERC Electric Tariff at https://www.misoenergy.org/legal/tariff/.

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1	An FMPTF is similar to a FFDF, but relates to ancillary services. A FMPTF
2	occurs when the unit fails the regulation mileage performance test by deviating from
3	MISO Regulation Deployment Instructions for a given hour. When an FMPTF occurs
4	then MISO imposes a "clawback" or a return of all regulation revenue for that hour.
5	The MISO charges related to FFDF and FMPTF as described above totaled
6	\$13,217.13 during the Review Period. The charges were not passed to Big Rivers'
7	rate payers through the FAC or the Non-FAC PPA, and were not recorded as an offset
8	to revenues. The penalties were recorded as purchased power cost that is not
9	recoverable from ratepayers.
10	Big Rivers was not subject to any FERC performance penalties during the
11	Review Period.
12	
13	Witnesses) Terry Wright, Jr.
14	