COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

)

)

)

)

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND GAS RATES AND APPROVAL OF CERTAIN REGULATORY AND ACCOUNTING TREATMENTS

CASE NO. 2025-00114

KENTUCKY BROADBAND AND CABLE ASSOCIATION'S MOTION TO INTERVENE

On behalf of its members,¹ the Kentucky Broadband and Cable Association ("KBCA"), by counsel, hereby moves the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Commission") pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11) for intervention in the above-styled matter. In support of this motion, KBCA states as follows:

KBCA is the trade association that represents Kentucky's investor-owned cable

companies. KBCA member companies offer fast, reliable broadband service to nearly two

million homes and businesses throughout the Commonwealth. Its mailing address is 5026 S.

Hwy 27, Somerset, KY 42501.

The Commission has interpreted KRS 278.040(2) as requiring a person seeking

intervention to have an interest in the rates or service of a utility as those are the only matters that

are subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. See Order, Kentucky Power Co., Case No. 2017-

¹ The KBCA's members are Access Cable, Armstrong, C&W Cable, Charter Communications, Comcast, Inter Mountain Cable, Lycom Communications, Mediacom, Suddenlink, and TVS Cable. Kentucky Broadband & Cable Association, Our Members, *available at* <u>https://www.kybroadband.org/members</u>.

00179 (Ky. PSC June 19, 2017). KBCA satisfies this requirement because its members attach to poles owned by Louisville Gas & Electric Company ("LG&E") and pay corresponding rates to LG&E.

Administrative regulation 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11)(b) states:

The commission shall grant a person leave to intervene if the commission finds that he or she has made a timely motion for intervention and that he or she has a special interest in the case that is not otherwise adequately represented or that his or her intervention is likely to present issues or to develop facts that assist the commission in fully considering the matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings.

KBCA has both (1) a special interest in this proceeding and (2) will present issues and develop facts that will assist the Commission in rendering a decision.

KBCA has a strong and abiding interest in access to utility pole infrastructure under just and reasonable rates. KBCA members are connectivity companies offering broadband, voice, mobile, and video services to more than one million homes and businesses and employing approximately 4,000 people across the Commonwealth. KBCA and its members are driving innovation and expanding access to broadband to ensure that residents of the Commonwealth receive the information, services, and entertainment they want and need to stay connected, informed, competitive, and successful in today's ultra-connected world. Access to reliable, highspeed broadband is critical to ensuring that Kentuckians, no matter where they live, have access to vital broadband services. KBCA members' tens of thousands of miles of Kentucky infrastructure ensure that some of Kentucky's largest businesses, hospitals, and anchor institutions can also serve the public. Hundreds of thousands of families and small businesses across the Commonwealth depend on KBCA members' robust networks, most of which deliver 1 Gigabit broadband speed connections, video services offering some of the greatest selections of high-definition channels available anywhere, and reliable voice services—including mobile services. To construct, operate, and maintain the communications networks to provide these vital services across Kentucky, KBCA must rely on reasonable access to existing utility infrastructure, including LG&E's poles.

Given its members' reliance on reasonable access to utility pole infrastructure, KBCA, on behalf of its members, actively participated in the Commission's proceedings to adopt just and reasonable pole attachment regulations. In those proceedings, KBCA submitted multiple rounds of comments on the Commission's proposed regulations, objected to certain pole attachment terms that the utilities proposed, and also submitted extensive briefing, data, and testimony.² In addition, KBCA was granted intervention and actively participated in Duke Energy Kentucky's rate case, Case No. 2022-00372.

KBCA now seeks to intervene in this proceeding because LG&E's proposed tariff contains rates that are unsupported, unjust, and unreasonable. LG&E's rates, if approved, would significantly impact KBCA members' ability to access LG&E's poles under just and reasonable rates in order to construct and operate their communications networks.

Given their reliance on reasonable and lawful access to utility poles to deploy vital broadband services across the Commonwealth, KBCA and its members are vital stakeholders who will provide the Commission with unique views and perspectives not offered by another participant in this proceeding. KBCA's views and experiences will assist the Commission in developing a robust and complete record on which to evaluate LG&E's proposed rate increases

² See, e.g., In the Matter of Electronic Investigation of Pole Attachments, Case No. 2023-00416; In the Matter of Electronic Investigation Of The Proposed Attachment Tariffs Of Investor Owned Electric Utilities, Case No. 2022-00105.

and ensure that the Commission considers all relevant stakeholders' positions in determining

whether LG&E's rates are just and reasonable.

Accordingly, the Commission should grant KBCA's motion to intervene.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ <u>M. Todd Osterloh</u> Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC M. Todd Osterloh James W. Gardner Rebecca C. Price 333 West Vine Street, Suite 1500 Lexington, KY 40507 Phone: (859) 255-8581 jgardner@sturgillturner.com tosterloh@sturgillturner.com

and

Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP Paul Werner (pro hac vice forthcoming) Hannah Wigger (pro hac vice forthcoming) 2099 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 100 Washington, DC 20006 (202) 747-1900 pwerner@sheppardmullin.com hwigger@sheppardmullin.com *Counsel for KBCA*