

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF)	
COLUMBIA GAS OF KENTUCKY, INC.)	CASE NO.
FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF RATES;)	2026-00099
APPROVAL OF DEPRECIATION STUDY;)	
APPROVAL OF TARIFF REVISIONS; AND)	
OTHER RELIEF)	

MOTION FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Comes now Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. (“Columbia”), by and through counsel, pursuant to KRS 61.878, 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13 and other applicable law, and for its motion requesting that the Kentucky Public Service Commission (“Commission”) afford confidential treatment to certain information filed in its application. In support of its motion, Columbia hereby states as follows:

1. On May 20, 2026, Columbia filed its Application in the above styled proceeding that contains various testimony, schedules, and information. As part of the Application Columbia filed Tab 72 containing an analysis of payroll costs and executive compensation as required by 807 KAR 5:001, Section 16(8)(g); Tab 30, Direct Testimony of George B. Jonda (“Jonda Direct”), Attachment GBJ-4 containing incentive compensation

metrics; and, Tab 30, Jonda Direct, Attachment GBJ-5 containing negotiated contract pricing.

2. Collectively, the information described above is designated as the “Confidential Information” for which protection is sought under KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1). Disclosure of the Confidential Information would permit an unfair commercial advantage to third parties and present an unnecessary and unreasonable infringement upon Columbia’s legitimate privacy concerns.

3. The Kentucky Open Records Act and applicable precedent exempts the Confidential Information from disclosure, including KRS 61.878(1)(a); KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1); *Zink v. Department of Workers Claims, Labor Cabinet*, 902 S.W.2d 825 (Ky. App. 1994); *Hoy v. Kentucky Industrial Revitalization Authority*, 907 S.W.2d 766, 768 (Ky. 1995). The public disclosure of the Confidential Information would harm Columbia’s competitive position in the marketplace by offering competitors insights into payroll costs and negotiated contract rates that are not otherwise publicly available and would be to the detriment of Columbia. Additionally, the Confidential Information is publicly unavailable. The confidentiality of this information is critical to Columbia’s effective execution of business decisions and strategy. For these reasons, the Confidential Information satisfies both the statutory and common law standards for affording confidential treatment.

4. Columbia is requesting confidential treatment of certain portions of Tab 72. The information must be reported in annual filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), but it has not been reported at this point because the Application is based on a forecasted test year. The executive compensation found in Tab 72 of the Application is based upon assumptions regarding forward-looking earnings-related information or stock-based information that may be considered material, non-public information. Additionally, Tab 72 of the Application contains wage and salary information of certain employees of Columbia which is not reported publicly in SEC filings, or elsewhere. Compensation is personal in nature and if disclosed could violate Columbia's employees' reasonable expectations of personal privacy with regard to compensation. Further, making this information public may provide other entities with information that could be used to Columbia's disadvantage when recruiting and retaining executive management.

5. Columbia is requesting confidential treatment of Tab 30, Jonda Direct, Attachment GBJ-4 because the documents include the metrics that are utilized to determine incentive compensation. This information has never been disclosed and release of this information would harm Columbia's ability to competitively hire and retain employees. Columbia's competitors could harm Columbia's position in the market if given access to this information. This information should be granted confidential protection pursuant to KRS 61.878(1)(a) and KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1).

6. Finally, Columbia is requesting confidential treatment of Tab 30, Jonda Direct, Attachment GBJ-5 which contains negotiated contract rates for third-party payment transactions. Disclosure of this information could result in competitive harm to Columbia in negotiating contracts in the future and competitors will gain information regarding Columbia's purchases, costs, and overall business strategies. This information should be granted confidential protection pursuant to KRS 71.878(1)(c)(1).

7. Overall, the Confidential Information consists of sensitive and proprietary information that is retained by Columbia on a "need-to-know" basis. The Confidential Information is distributed within Columbia only to those employees who must have access for business reasons and is generally recognized as confidential and proprietary in the energy industry.

8. Columbia does not object to limited disclosure of the Confidential Information, pursuant to an acceptable confidentiality and nondisclosure agreement, to intervenors with a legitimate interest in reviewing same for the sole purpose of participating in this case. Columbia reserves the right to object to providing the Confidential Information to any intervenor if said provision could result in liability to Columbia under any Confidentiality Agreement or Non-Disclosure Agreement.

9. In accordance with the provisions of 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(2), Columbia is filing separately under seal one (1) unredacted and highlighted copy of each

of the documents. Columbia is redacting and noting in the public version of the filing all of the confidential information.

10. In accordance with the provisions of 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(2), Columbia respectfully requests that the Confidential Information be withheld from public disclosure for an indefinite period.

11. If, and to the extent, the Confidential Information becomes publicly available or otherwise no longer warrants confidential treatment, Columbia will notify the Commission and have its confidential status removed, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 13(10).

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, Columbia respectfully requests that the Commission classify and protect as confidential the Confidential Information described herein for an indefinite period.

This the 20th day of May 2026

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that the foregoing electronic filing was transmitted to the Commission on May 20, 2026, and that there are no parties that the Commission has excused from participation by electronic means in this proceeding. Pursuant to prior Commission Orders, no paper copies of this filing will be made.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Meredith Case". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Counsel for Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc.