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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615

Attention: Quang Nguyen
Staff Counsel
Re: Docket # 2012-00428

I am writing to request a leave to intervene in Docket # 2012-00428, "Consideration of the Implementation of Smart Grid and Smart Meter Technologies".

I was a regulator in Vermont for eight years as Commissioner of Public Service and led the launch of the Vermont statewide grid modernization project that includes all the retail distribution utilities as well the Vermont Electric Transmission Company (VELCO). That project includes Advanced Metering or AMI, Distribution Automation and dynamic pricing pilots and is slated for completion by the end of 2013.

BRIDGE is a technical and strategic consultant to the electric utility industry with a focus on grid modernization. We are actively engaged in policy and operational discussions on the national level including the development of standards through the NIST SGIP process. We well understand the need for sound policy and functional consideration prior to major investment in so called smart grid infrastructure occurs. Candidly there has been too little of such up front deliberation and the Commonwealth will benefit a great deal from the process described in the Order dated October 1st.

I would suggest to the Commission that BRIDGE can provide meaningful input to your consideration of so called *Smart Grid Technologies* and the related regulatory process considerations such as time differentiated rates, cost recovery, balancing risk and reward, etc. As Director of Regulatory Strategy & Compliance I have followed numerous regulatory cases in recent years involving smart grid investment and written and spoken extensively on the subject. I look forward to the commencement of this important investigation.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. O'Brien", written over a faint, large-scale watermark of the BRIDGE logo.

David J. O'Brien