COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the matter of:

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JAN 17 2017 Glenn R. Spencer (Your Full Name) **Public Service** Commission COMPLAINANT VS. CLark Energy (Name of Utility) Case No. 2017-00050 DEFENDANT COMPLAINT The complaint of <u>Glenn</u> R <u>Jpencen</u> respectfully shows: (Your Full Name) (a) <u>Glann R Spencen</u> (Your Full Name) (Your Address) (b) <u>Clar A Energy</u> (Name of Utility) POBOL 748 Winderstry Kg (c) That: <u>Clan & Eneral Ras Green changing</u> (Describe here, attaching additional sheets if necessary, Big Oak Nursung Farm as a commercial Rate the specific act, fully and clearly, or facts that are the reason and basis for the complaint.)

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Clank energy states since we have a sight so we are commencial, we sell to far mens marbut to other Budachens of farm products. According to state by macheting hows AMI 301(11) AMI 301(2) Section(2)(0) Nussen Stock is considered Farm operation (Nunsey closed 1 x 2015) Wherefore, complainant asks $\underline{Tha} + \underline{Ctan} h \underline{Eregy}$ (Specifically state the relief desired.) Change Acc # (169110 to har! cuture on RES. De Nitia and reimburse Acc # 69110 thed france IN facility charges since June-2010 Dated at Owing sulla, My, Kentucky, this _____ day (Your City) , 20 <u>/ 7</u>. of flu & Sun

(Name and address of attorney, if any)

Date

*Complaints by corporations or associations, or any other organization having the right to file a complaint, must be signed by its attorney and show his post office address. No oral or unsigned complaints will be entertained or acted upon by the commission.

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Guidelines for Review of Local Laws Affecting Nursery Operations

The Agriculture and Markets Law (AML) definition of "farm operation" [AML §301(11)] includes "crops, livestock and livestock products" as defined in AML §301(2). Section 301(2)(d) defines "horticultural specialties" to include, but not be limited to, "...nursery stock, ornamental shrubs, ornamental trees and flowers." The Department considers the production, preparation and marketing of products grown on the farm, from bare rootstock, seeds, cuttings, plugs, or other immature plants, and transplanting such products into larger containers, to be a farm operation. The Department also considers the production, preparation and marketing of woody mature plants that have been planted or healed into the ground at the nursery, or that are balled/burlapped, and cared for and grown on the property for one year or longer, to be a farm operation. The production of sod is also part of a nursery operation. A farm operation may consist of one or more parcels of owned or rented land that is contiguous or noncontiguous to each other.

Many nursery operations contain accessory buildings, such as greenhouses, for the production and sale of their agricultural products. The Department guideline entitled *Local Laws Affecting Temporary Greenhouses* should be consulted concerning such structures. Many nursery operations also sell product directly to the public. The Department guideline entitled *Local Laws Affecting Direct Farm Marketing Activities* should be consulted concerning such sales.

Local governments and growers/plant dealers should also consult with the Division of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture and Markets, to assure compliance with State Laws. The Division of Plant Industry (<u>http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/Pl/PIHome.html</u>) is responsible for maintaining plant health, promoting integrated pest management practices, preventing the introduction of and controlling invasive species, registering nurseries and plant dealers and detecting and preventing the spread of bee diseases.

The following are some of the specific matters that the Department considers when reviewing a local law that affects nursery operations:

A. Nursery Operations as a Permitted Use

Nursery operations should be a principal permitted use in all local zoning districts located in a county adopted, State certified agricultural district, since the purpose of such districts is to encourage the development and improvement of agricultural land. Agricultural uses and structures within an agricultural district should generally not be subject to special use permits, use variances or non-conforming use requirements. Nursery operations may sell their products either retail or wholesale.

B. Product Origin

Some farmers import crops from other farms to sell at their stands to increase the diversity of products offered or to bridge periods of low supply of commodities produced on-farm. Product diversity may attract potential customers to a roadside stand or farm market. The Department believes the sale of some agricultural products grown off the farm should be allowed, but has not established a percentage of on-farm versus off-farm products for that purpose. The Department considers the facts of a particular case in making a determination whether a local law is unreasonably restrictive, but generally would view as reasonable a requirement for predominance of on-farm products. The needs of "start-up" farm operations should also be

considered. These farms often start by selling a large percentage of agricultural products grown off the farm in order to develop a customer base and maintain income while their farms are growing. Therefore, if a percentage of on-farm products were required by a locality, these farms should be allowed a reasonable period of time to meet the percentage.

The Department considers agricultural commodities produced "on-farm" to include any products that may have been produced by a farmer in his or her "farm operation" from bare rootstock, seeds, cuttings, plugs, or other immature plants, and transplanting such products into larger containers, to be a farm operation. The Department also considers the production, preparation and marketing of woody mature plants that are balled/burlapped or have been planted or healed into the ground at the nursery, and cared for and grown on the property for one year or longer, to be a farm operation. A "farm operation" may consist of a number of parcels owned or leased by that farmer throughout a town, county, or the State. The Department considers all such land as part of the farm operation.

C. Equipment Storage, Use and Maintenance

Local governments should allow farm operations within a county adopted, State certified agricultural district to store, use and maintain farm equipment for agricultural purposes in an amount and type consistent with the needs and scope of the farm operation. An on-site review of such equipment and the farm operation may be necessary to determine if the equipment is utilized for agricultural purposes as part of the farm operation.

The on-farm equipment and vehicle storage, use and maintenance, and activities of employees (e.g., parking), and the dispatching of such equipment and vehicles, which are necessary for the installation of nursery stock and plant material at a client's site, is part of a "farm operation" under certain conditions. These include that the nursery stock and plant material be produced by the farmer in the farmer's "farm operation" from bare rootstock, seeds, cuttings, plugs, or other immature plants or mature plants that have been planted in the ground at the nursery, or transplanted into larger containers, and cared for and grown on the property for one year or longer; the nursery offers a survivability guarantee for a period of at least three years (for sod, a guarantee of approximately four weeks, until it takes root); and the nursery stock and plant material is planted and cared for by staff employed by the nursery.

D. Storage and Use of Non-Plant Material

The Department has concluded that stockpiled soil and mulch are often necessary for the onfarm production, preparation and marketing of nursery stock. Soil and mulch are used on the farm to plant and care for nursery stock which is grown in the ground on the farm and to prepare the stock for sale. Soil and mulch are also sold to retail and wholesale customers for use in replanting nursery stock. Potting soil used by the nursery operation is also considered necessary for the production of horticultural plant material. Therefore, the storage, use and sale of soil, mulch and potting soil, in an amount consistent with the size and scope of the nursery, is part of the farm operation. In the Department's view, however, the sale of hardscrabble, landscape timbers, masonry for the construction of retaining walls and firewood is not necessary for the production, preparation and marketing of nursery plants and, therefore, is not part of a "farm operation."

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GLENN R SPENCER BONNIE G SPENCER 1705 PEELED OAK RD OWINGSVILLE KY 40360-8316

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