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October 17, 2018

Ms. Gwen R. Pinson
Executive Director
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

In Re: Electronic Joint Application of Kentucky Power Company and Community Action Kentucky, Inc. To: 1) Expand and Modify Home Energy Assistance Program; 2) Approve the Amended Operating Agreement; 3) Approve Voluntary Energy Assistance Fund; 4) Approve Revised Tariff Sheets; and 5) Grant All Other Relief; Case No. 2018-00311

Dear Ms. Pinson:

As Kentucky families are already struggling to pay increasing utility bills, and wage growth is stagnating, the attorney general supports the joint applicants in proposing solutions to help reduce the energy burden of those most-vulnerable citizens. As the organizations with the most direct access to those families who require assistance, the community action agencies are best-equipped to understand the perils and needs of those struggling to pay utility bills.

The proposed changes, such as expanding the universe of consumers who are eligible for help and providing funding in a more flexible way, will ultimately serve to benefit customers. The attorney general understands that the proposed changes are intended to provide additional assistance to families at the time of year the energy burden is the highest and to provide additional streams of possible assistance, such as utility and customer donations. Given Community Action Kentucky's status as a joint-applicant in this matter, and having reviewed the substance of the proposal, the attorney general believes the Kentucky Public Service Commission should give serious consideration to the application and if it deems it to be in the public interest, approve it accordingly.

Sincerely,

Andy Beshear
Attorney General