COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE)APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT)CLAUSE OF EAST KENTUCKY POWER)COOPERATIVE, INC. FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2017)THROUGH APRIL 30, 2018)

CASE NO. 2018-00217

ORDER

On August 24, 2018, Eastern Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) filed a petition, pursuant to KRS 61.878 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(2), requesting that the Commission grant confidential protection to the identified portions of the Responses to Request Number 4 and Request Number 5, which were contained in the Appendix to the Commission's Order of August 10, 2018.

Specifically, EKPC seeks confidential treatment of its bid tabulation sheets from written coal supply solicitations (Response No. 4), and bid tabulation sheets from oral coal supply solicitations (Response No. 5). The confidential information includes: procurement strategies; coal specifications received from third party bidders; pricing data for coal bids received from third-party bidders; and, recommendations from EKPC Staff regarding the selection of particular vendors to supply fuel to EKPC's generating fleet.

As the basis for its request, EKPC states that the confidential information is maintained by EKPC on a "need-to-know" basis and is not publicly available. EKPC states that public disclosure of the confidential information would give potential vendors and competitors a competitive advantage in the course of ongoing and future negotiations to procure fuel and fuel-related commodities. EKPC asserts that this advantage would lead to higher costs for EKPC and, thus, higher rates for EKPC's members. EKPC requests that this information remain confidential for ten years.

Having considered the petition and the material at issue, the Commission finds that the designated material contained in Response No. 4 and Response No. 5 is generally recognized as confidential or proprietary, and therefore meets the criteria for confidential treatment and is exempted from public disclosure pursuant to KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1) and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. EKPC's petition for confidential protection for Response No. 4 and Response No. 5 is granted.

2. The designated information shall not be placed in the public record or made available for public inspection for a period of ten years or until further Order of this Commission.

3. Use of the material in question in any Commission proceeding shall be in compliance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(9).

4. EKPC shall inform the Commission if the material in question becomes publicly available or no longer qualifies for confidential treatment.

5. If a non-party to this proceeding requests to inspect the material granted confidential treatment by this Order and the period during which the material has been granted confidential treatment has not expired, then EKPC shall have 20 days from receipt of written notice of the request to demonstrate that the material still falls within the exclusions from disclosure requirements established in KRS 61.878. If EKPC is unable

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to make such demonstration, the requested material shall be made available for inspection. Otherwise, the Commission shall deny the request for inspection.

6. The Commission shall not make the requested material available for inspection for 20 days following an Order finding that the material no longer qualifies for confidential treatment in order to allow EKPC to seek a remedy afforded by law.

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By the Commission



ATTEST:

Leven R. Purson

Executive Director

*L Allyson Honaker Goss Samford, PLLC 2365 Harrodsburg Road, Suite B325 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40504

*David S Samford Goss Samford, PLLC 2365 Harrodsburg Road, Suite B325 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40504

*Isaac Scott Pricing Manager East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. P. O. Box 707 Winchester, KY 40392-0707

*Patrick Woods East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. P. O. Box 707 Winchester, KY 40392-0707

*East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 4775 Lexington Road P. O. Box 707 Winchester, KY 40392-0707

*East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 4775 Lexington Road P. O. Box 707 Winchester, KY 40392-0707