

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF MEADE	)	
COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	)	
CORPORATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF	)	
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO	)	CASE NO.
CONTINUE WITH THE FULL DEPLOYMENT	)	2020-00336
INSTALLATION OF ITS AUTOMATED	)	
METERING AND INFRASTRUCTURE	)	
SYSTEM	)	

ORDER

On December 7, 2020, Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Meade RECC) filed a motion, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, and KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1), requesting that the Commission grant confidential protection for ten years for certain information and documents filed by Meade RECC in response to the requests for information propounded by Commission Staff. Specifically, the solicitation responses from vendors provided in response to Item 2 of the Commission Staff’s request for information and attached as Exhibit 2, Exhibit 3, and Exhibit 4, as well as the vendor bid evaluation sheets provided in response to Item 4 of the Commission Staff’s request for information and attached as Exhibit 6.

In support of its motion, Meade RECC argues that each item for which Meade RECC requests confidential treatment warrants protection from open viewing and distribution. These materials were furnished to Meade RECC solely for its own business purposes, and Meade RECC committed to vendors that it would maintain confidentiality of the vendors’ pricing and other proposal content that were stamped as “proprietary” and

“confidential.” All information is proprietary and retained by Meade RECC on a need-to-know basis and is only distributed within Meade RECC to those people holding select positions who must have access for business purposes.

Having considered the motion and the material at issue, the Commission finds that the solicitation responses from vendors and vendor bid evaluation sheets are generally recognized as confidential or proprietary; it therefore meets the criteria for confidential treatment and is exempted from public disclosure pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, and KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Meade RECC’s motion for confidential protection for the solicitation responses from vendors and vendor bid evaluation sheets is granted.

2. The designated information contained in the solicitation responses from vendors and vendor bid evaluation sheets shall not be placed in the public record or made available for public inspection for 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. Meade RECC shall inform the Commission if the material in question becomes publicly available or no longer qualifies for confidential treatment.

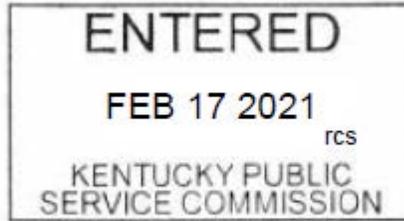
5. If a nonparty to this proceeding requests to inspect the material granted confidential treatment by this Order and the period during which the material has been granted confidential treatment has not expired, Meade RECC shall have 30 days from receipt of written notice of the request to demonstrate that the material still falls within the exclusions from disclosure requirements established in KRS 61.878. If Meade RECC is

unable 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 30 days from the date of service of an Order finding that the material no longer qualifies for confidential treatment in order to allow Meade RECC to seek a remedy afforded by law.

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By the Commission



ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda C. Adwell". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Executive Director

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