### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF LICKING)VALLEY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE)CORPORATION FOR A GENERAL)ADJUSTMENT OF RATES AND OTHER)GENERAL RELIEF)

## <u>ORDER</u>

On August 8, 2024 Licking Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation (Licking Valley RECC) filed its application for a general adjustment of rates based on a historical test period ending December 31, 2023. The application proposed that the new rates become effective on September 8, 2024.<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to KRS 278.180(1), changes to any rate by any utility is prohibited except upon 30 days' notice to the Commission. Therefore, since the application was accepted for filing as of August 8, 2024, the earliest date that Licking Valley RECC's proposed rates can be effective is September 8, 2024. Having reviewed Licking Valley RECC's application, the Commission finds that an investigation is necessary to determine the reasonableness of the proposed rates, and that an investigation cannot be completed by September 8, 2024. Therefore, pursuant to KRS 278.190(2), the Commission will suspend the effective date of the proposed rates for five months, up to and including February 8, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Application (filed Aug. 8, 2024) at 2-3.

The Commission further finds that a procedural schedule is necessary to review the reasonableness of the proposed rates. Therefore, the Commission establishes the procedural schedule attached as an Appendix to this Order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Licking Valley RECC's proposed rates are suspended for five months, up to and including February 8, 2025.

2. The procedural schedule set forth in the Appendix to this Order shall be followed.

3. Licking Valley RECC shall respond to all requests for information propounded by Commission Staff, whether identified on the procedural schedule or otherwise, as provided in those requests.

4. Any party filing a paper with the Commission shall file an electronic copy in accordance with the electronic filing procedures set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked. The Commission directs the parties to the Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085<sup>2</sup> regarding filings with the Commission.

5. As set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11)(a), a person requesting permissive intervention in a Commission proceeding is required to demonstrate either (1) a special interest in the proceeding that is not adequately represented in the case, or (2) that the person requesting permissive intervention is likely to present issues or develop

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Case No. 2020-00085, *Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19* (Ky. PSC July 22, 2021), Order (in which the Commission ordered that for case filings made on and after March 16, 2020, filers are NOT required to file the original physical copies of the filings required by 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8).

facts that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings. Therefore, any person requesting to intervene in a Commission proceeding must state with specificity the person's special interest that is not otherwise adequately represented, or the issues and facts that the person will present that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter. A mere recitation of the quantity of utility service consumed by the movant or a general statement regarding a potential impact of possible modification of rates will not be deemed sufficient to establish a special interest.

6. Any motion to intervene filed after the date established in the procedural schedule shall also show good cause for being untimely. If the untimely motion is granted, the movant shall accept and abide by the existing procedural schedule.

7. Licking Valley RECC shall give notice of any scheduled hearing in accordance with the provisions set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(2). In addition, the notice of hearing shall include the following statements: "This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov" and "Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listing on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov." At the time publication is requested, Licking Valley RECC shall forward a duplicate of the notice and request to the Commission.

8. At any public hearing in this matter, neither opening statements nor summarization of direct testimonies shall be permitted.

9. Any hearing scheduled in this matter shall be held on the designated day or days and continued until called from the bench by the presiding officer. Pursuant to

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807 KAR 5:001, Section 2, if the hearing is not concluded on the designated day, the hearing shall be continued upon verbal announcement by the presiding officer. A verbal announcement made by the presiding officer shall be proper notice of the continued hearing.

10. Witnesses who sponsor schedules, testimony, or responses to requests for information shall participate in person at any hearing scheduled in this matter.

11. Licking Valley RECC shall file a witness list at least seven days prior to the hearing date.

12. Pursuant to KRS 278.360 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(9), a digital video recording shall be made of the hearing.

13. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions for continuance. Accordingly, motions for extensions of time with respect to the schedule herein shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

14. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions to excuse witnesses from testifying at Commission hearings. Accordingly, motions to excuse a witness from testifying at a Commission hearing or from testifying in person at a Commission hearing shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

Case No. 2024-00211

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Vice Chairman Commissioner



ATTEST:

Siduell

Executive Director

## APPENDIX

# APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2024-00211 DATED AUG 16 2024

Last day for intervention requests to be accepted
All initial requests for information to Licking Valley RECC shall be filed no later than09/04/2024
Licking Valley RECC shall file responses to initial requests for information no later than09/18/2024
All supplemental requests for information to Licking Valley RECC shall be filed no later than 10/02/2024
Licking Valley RECC shall file responses to supplemental requests for information no later than
Intervenor testimony, if any, in verified prepared form shall be filed no later than
All requests for information to intervenors shall be filed no later than
Intervenors shall file responses to requests for information no later than
Licking Valley RECC shall file, in verified form, its rebuttal testimony no later than
Public hearing to be held in the Richard Raff Hearing Room at the offices of the Public Service Commission at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of cross-examination of witnesses of Licking Valley RECC and intervenors
Post-hearing briefs, if any To be scheduled

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