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A Registered Limited Liability Partnership

Attorneys At Law

Established 1916

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Re:

AMEP/z.91838

Mr. Herb Hilliard, Chairman Tennessee Regulatory Authority 502 Deaderick Street, 4th Floor Nashville, TN 37243

Docket No.: \_15-00067

Dear Chairman Hilliard:

Enclosed are the original and five copies of the Application by Kingsport Power Company d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power, which has been electronically filed today. Please return one "stamped" copy to our office in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Application of Kingsport Power Company d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power

Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$25.00 to cover the filing fees. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Very sincerely yours,

**HUNTER, SMITH & DAVIS, LLP** 

William C. Bovender

William C. Bovender

WCB/sel
Enclosures
c: William E. Johnson

S. Morris Hadden William C. Bovender William C. Argabrite Jimmie Carpenter Miller Mark S. Dessauer Gregory K. Haden Michael L. Forrester Stephen M. Darden Edward J. Webb, Jr. James N.L. Humphreys Suzanne Sweet Cook Michael S. Lattier Scott T. Powers Leslie Tentler Ridings Christopher D. Owens Chad W. Whitfield Jason A. Creech Meredith Bates Humbert Joseph B. Harvey Rachel Ralston Mancl Caroline Ross Williams

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PLEASE RESPOND TO:
KINGSPORT OFFICE

June 24, 2015

VIA EMAIL & FEDEX

#### Before the TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

In the Matter of the Application

of

Docket No. 15-

KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY

For Permission to Make Notes to Evidence Indebtedness Not to Exceed \$20,000,000

#### TO THE HONORABLE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY:

Comes the Petitioner, Kingsport Power Company d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power (hereinafter called "Kingsport"), and presents this Application for the following purposes:

Kingsport seeks approval from this Authority to issue up to \$20,000,000 of its unsecured long-term indebtedness from time to time through June 30, 2020. The proceeds will be used to reduce the maturing long and short-term unsecured indebtedness of the Company. Short-term indebtedness of the Company was \$25,865,373 at March 31, 2015. The proposed financing will bear interest at a fixed rate, a fluctuating rate or some combination of fixed and fluctuating rates. In order to obtain a favorable rate of interest, however, it is generally necessary to be able to commit to the financing within 24 hours from the time that funds become available. Therefore, this Application seeks approval of the financing within the ranges of maturities and interest specified herein without the need for a separate hearing on the final commitment.

In support of this Application, Kingsport respectfully submits the following:

- 1. It is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and qualified to transact business in the State of Tennessee and with its principal office in the City of Kingsport, Tennessee.
- 2. Kingsport proposes to issue and sell from time to time through June 30, 2020 up to \$20,000,000 principal amount of its unsecured promissory note or notes (the "Notes") to one or more commercial banks, financial institutions or other institutional investors or lenders pursuant to one or more term loan agreements and/or note purchase agreements (collectively, the "Proposed

Agreement"). In addition, Kingsport proposes to issue one or more unsecured promissory notes ("AEP Notes") to its parent, American Electric Power Company, Inc. ("AEP"), provided that the aggregate amount of Notes and AEP Notes issued will not exceed \$20,000,000.

- 3. Kingsport is requesting an Order of this Authority approving the proposed financing in all respects such that, upon receipt of such Order, Kingsport may unconditionally, and without further Order of this Authority, enter into a definitive agreement with a bank or banks, in the form of a Proposed Agreement and subject to the conditions, restrictions and limitations specified herein.
- 4. A Proposed Agreement would be a definitive form of agreement with any bank and would provide that the Notes bear interest at either a fixed rate, fluctuating rate or some combination of fixed and fluctuating rates. Kingsport believes that it would be beneficial to commit itself to a long-term obligation. The actual rate of interest which each Note shall bear, and the maturity thereof, shall be subject to further negotiation between Kingsport and the lender.

Any fixed rate of interest of the Notes will not, at the time of issuance of the Notes, be greater than 300 basis points above the yield to maturity of United States Treasury obligations that mature on or about the date of maturity of the Notes.

In the event a bank or financial institution arranges for a borrowing from a third party, such institution may charge Kingsport a placement fee, not to exceed 1% of the principal amount of such borrowing.

Kingsport believes, given its size and the size of the requested indebtedness, that obtaining this financing through private sources is more cost effective than the public markets.

The Proposed Agreement may specify that, in the event a Note bearing interest at a fixed rate is paid prior to maturity in whole or in part and the fixed rate at that time exceeds the yields to maturity of United States Treasury Notes maturing on or close to the Note, Kingsport shall pay to

the lender an amount based on the present value of such prepaid amounts discounted at such treasury yield.

The Proposed Agreement may contain restrictive covenants which would prohibit Kingsport from, among other things, (i) creating, incurring, assuming or suffering to exist any liens on its property, with certain stated exceptions; (ii) creating or incurring any indebtedness for borrowed money, except as specified therein; (iii) failing to maintain a specified level of capitalization; (iv) entering into certain mergers, consolidations and dispositions of assets; and (v) permitting certain events to occur in connection with its pension plans.

A borrowing by Kingsport from a bank under the Proposed Agreement may be evidenced by one or more Notes of Kingsport. The Proposed Agreement and such Notes thereunder would be for a term of not less than nine months nor more than ten years from the date of borrowing.

- 5. The interest rates and maturity dates of any AEP Notes would be designed to reflect prevailing market rates. In addition, the interest rate and maturity parameters governing the Notes would apply to the AEP Notes.
- 6. Kingsport proposes to apply all of the proceeds of the financing for general corporate purposes relating to Kingsport's utility business. These purposes include redeeming or repurchasing outstanding short or long-term debt, funding its construction program and replenishing working capital. Kingsport's long and short term debt totals \$45,865,373 as of March 31, 2015. The amount requested of \$20,000,000 will permit Kingsport to refinance the total debt within the requested approval period, and to cover costs of issuance of up to \$1 million for a minimum of \$19 million in new money.
- 7. Balance sheets of Kingsport as of December 31, 2014 and the related statements of income and retained earnings of Kingsport for the year then ended are annexed hereto as Exhibit 1.

Kingsport requests authority to enter into, perform, purchase and sell financial instruments intended to reduce or manage the volatility of interest rates, including but not limited to interest rate swaps, caps, floors, collars and forward agreements or any other similar agreements. Hedges may also include issuance of structured notes (i.e., a debt instrument in which the principal and/or interest payments are indirectly linked to the value of an underlying asset or index), or transactions involving the purchase or sale, including short sales, of U.S. Treasury or Agency (e.g., FNMA) obligations or LIBOR based swap instruments (collectively referred to as "Hedge Instruments"). The transactions would be for fixed periods and stated notional amounts. Kingsport would employ interest rate derivatives as a means of prudently managing the risk associated with any of its outstanding debt issued pursuant to this authorization or an applicable exemption by, in effect, synthetically (i) converting variable rate debt to fixed rate debt; (ii) converting fixed rate debt to variable rate debt; and (iii) limiting the impact of changes in interest rates resulting from variable rate debt. In no case will the notional principal amount of any interest rate swap exceed the greater of the value of the underlying debt instrument or the present market value of the underlying debt instrument and related interest rate exposure. Transactions will be entered into for a fixed or determinable period. Thus, Kingsport will not engage in speculative transactions unassociated with its financing needs and activities. Kingsport will only enter into agreements with counterparties ("Approved Counter-parties") whose senior debt ratings, as published by a national recognized rating agency are greater than or equal to "BBB", or an equivalent rating.

In addition, Kingsport requests authorization to enter into interest rate hedging transactions with respect to anticipated debt offerings (the "Anticipatory Hedges"), subject to certain limitations and restrictions. Such Anticipatory Hedges would only be entered into with Approved Counterparties, and would be utilized to fix and/or limit the interest rate risk associated with any new issuance through (i) a forward sale of exchange-traded Hedge Instruments (each a "Forward

Sale"); (ii) the purchase of put options on Hedge Instruments (a "Put Options Purchase"); (iii) a Put Options Purchase in combination with the sale of call options on Hedge Instruments (a "Zero Cost Collar"); (iv) transactions involving the purchase or sale, including short sales, of Hedge Instruments; or (v) some combination of a Forward Sale, Put Options Purchase, Zero Cost Collar and/or other derivative or cash transactions, including, but not limited to structured notes, caps and collars, appropriate for the Anticipatory Hedges. Anticipatory Hedges may be executed on-exchange ("On-Exchange Trades") with brokers through the opening of futures and/or options positions traded on the Chicago Board of Trade ("CBOT"), the opening of over-the-counter positions with one or more counterparties ("Off-Exchange Trades"), or a combination of On-Exchange Trades and Off-Exchange Trades. Kingsport will determine the optimal structure of each Anticipatory Hedge transaction at the time of execution. Kingsport may decide to lock in interest rates and/or limit its exposure to interest rate increases.

Kingsport has complied with Statement of Financial Accounting standards ("SFAS") 80 ("Accounting for Futures Contracts"), SFAS 133 ("Accounting for Derivatives Instruments and Hedging Activities"), and will comply with such other standards relating to accounting for derivative transactions as are adopted and implemented by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB").

WHEREFORE, Kingsport respectfully prays that an Order be entered (1) authorizing Kingsport from time to time through June 30, 2020 to borrow up to \$20,000,000 pursuant to the Proposed Agreement and to execute a note or notes, substantially in the form of the Notes or AEP Notes in an amount not to exceed \$20,000,000 to evidence the borrowings to be made pursuant to the Proposed Agreement and (2) granting to Kingsport such other, further or general relief as, in your judgment, Kingsport may be entitled to have upon the facts hereinabove set forth.

#### KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY

Assistant Treasurer

Dated: June 7, 2015

William C. Bovender Esq. Hunter, Smith & Davis LLP

P.O. Box 3740

Kingsport, Tennessee 37664 Attorney for Petitioner

## **Kingsport Power Company**

2014 Annual Report

**Audited Financial Statements** 



## KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY BALANCE SHEETS

#### ASSETS

## December 31, 2014 and 2013 (in thousands)

				iber 31,	
CURRENT ASSETS	<u></u>	2014		2013	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	77	\$	88	
Accounts Receivable:	_		Ψ.		
Customers	•	1,596		1,627	
Affiliated Companies		1,522		2,227	
Accrued Unbilled Revenues		470		1,224	
Miscellaneous		293		294	
Total Accounts Receivable		3,881		5,372	
Materials and Supplies		277		338	
Deferred Income Tax Benefits		115		460	
Accrued Tax Benefits		359		192	
Prepayments		2,255		2,086	
Other Current Assets		6		152	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		6,970		8,688	
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT					
Electric:					
Transmission		29,328		27,171	
Distribution		131,002		125,212	
Other Property, Plant and Equipment		5,629		3,775	
Construction Work in Progress		3,222		1,537	
Total Property, Plant and Equipment		169,181		157,695	
Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization		63,260		59,364	
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT – NET		105,921		98,331	
OTHER NONCURRENT ASSETS					
Regulatory Assets		14,224		13,500	
Deferred Charges and Other Noncurrent Assets		1,378		1,368	
TOTAL OTHER NONCURRENT ASSETS		15,602		14,868	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	128,493	\$	121,887	

See Notes to Financial Statements beginning on page 9.

# KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY BALANCE SHEETS LIABILITIES AND COMMON SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY December 31, 2014 and 2013

	December 31,		1,	
		2014		2013
CURRENT LIABILITIES	(in thousands			s)
Advances from Affiliates	\$	22,039	\$	19,083
Accounts Payable:				
General		1,348		507
Affiliated Companies		13,608		13,661
Customer Deposits		4,085		3,888
Accrued Taxes		1,229		1,384
Accrued Interest		1,213		1,105
Other Current Liabilities		2,381		2,334
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		45,903		41,962
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES				
Long-term Debt – Affiliated		20,000		20,000
Deferred Income Taxes		28,084		26,744
Regulatory Liabilities and Deferred Investment Tax Credits		698		676
Employee Benefits and Pension Obligations		2,044		1,251
Deferred Credits and Other Noncurrent Liabilities		487		173
TOTAL NONCURRENT LIABILITIES		51,313		48,844
TOTAL LIABILITIES		97,216	_	90,806
Rate Matters (Note 4)				
Commitments and Contingencies (Note 6)				
COMMON SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY				
Common Stock - No Par Value:				
Authorized – 500,000 Shares				
Outstanding – 410,000 Shares		4,100		4,100
Paid-in Capital		13,800		13,800
Retained Earnings		13,377		13,178
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)		<i>'</i> —		3
TOTAL COMMON SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY		31,277		31,081
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND COMMON SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY	\$	128,493	\$	121,887

See Notes to Financial Statements beginning on page 9.

## KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY STATEMENTS OF INCOME

## For the Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 (in thousands)

	Years Ended 2014		December 31, 2013	
REVENUES	-			
Electricity, Transmission and Distribution	\$	161,485	\$	153,760
Sales to AEP Affiliates		2,654		2,095
Other Revenues		269		267
TOTAL REVENUES		164,408	-	156,122
EXPENSES				
Purchased Electricity from AEP Affiliates	-	141,721		129,015
Other Operation		5,234		5,671
Maintenance		3,373		4,280
Depreciation and Amortization		5,752		4,904
Taxes Other Than Income Taxes		6,129		6,012
TOTAL EXPENSES		162,209		149,882
OPERATING INCOME		2,199		6,240
Interest Expense		(1,309)		(1,304)
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE		890		4,936
Income Tax Expense		291		1,813
NET INCOME	\$	599	<u>\$</u>	3,123

The common stock of KGPCo is wholly-owned by AEP.

See Notes to Financial Statements beginning on page 9.

### Before the TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

In the Matter of the Application	:	
in the Matter of the Appheation	:	
of	:	Docket No.
KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY	:	Docket No.
En Demoissien to Males Notes to Esidence	:	
For Permission to Make Notes to Evidence Indebtedness Not to Exceed \$20,000,000	:	

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Jeffrey D. Cross, am authorized to represent Kingsport Power Company and to make this verification on its behalf. The statements in the Application of Kingsport Power Company filed in this docket today are true and of my own knowledge, except as to matters which are stated therein on information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true. Kingsport Power Company will comply with all applicable laws with respect to its issuance of securities to the public. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY

By Assistant Secretary

STATE OF OHIO

ss:

COUNTY OF FRANKLIN :

Subscribed and sworn to me this 19th day of June, 2015.

MOLLY A. BEHRE NOTARY PUBLIC

Notary Public
My Commission expires:

STATE OF OHIO

My Comm. Expires Jesusov 19, 2018