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January 12, 2022

Via Electronic Filing & UPS 2-Day

David Foster, Chief – Utilities Division c/o Tory Lawless Dockets and Records Manager Tennessee Public Utility Commission 502 Deaderick St., 4th Floor Nashville, TN 37243

Re:

PETITION OF KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY d/b/a AEP APPALACHIAN

POWER COMPANY FOR A GENERAL RATE INCREASE

(Docket No. 21-00107)

Dear Ms. Lawless:

Enclosed please find an original and four copies of a Petition to Intervene to be filed on behalf of East Tennessee Energy Consumers, including a check for the filing fee in the amount of \$25.00, in the above-referenced docket.

Thank you for your kind attention to this request.

Sincerely yours,

Michael J. Quinan

MJQ Enclosures

cc: Mr. William C. Bovender

Mr. Joseph B. Harvey

Mr. James R. Bacha

Mr. Vance L Broemel

Ms. Rachel C. Bowen

Ms. Noelle J. Coates

TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

In Re:

PETITION OF KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY d/b/a AEP APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY FOR A GENERAL RATE INCREASE Docket No. 21-00107

PETITION TO INTERVENE OF THE EAST TENNESSEE ENERGY CONSUMERS

East Tennessee Energy Consumers ("ETEC"), by counsel, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-5-310 and 65-2-107 and the Rules and Regulations of the Tennessee Public Utility

Commission ("Commission"), hereby petitions the Commission for leave to intervene as a party of record in the above-captioned proceeding. In support of its petition, ETEC states as follows:

- 1. This proceeding was instituted on or about November 17, 2021, upon the petition ("Petition") of Kingsport Power Company, d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power ("Kingsport" or "Company") for a general rate case.
- 2. In its Petition, Kingsport seeks, among other relief, Commission approval of a \$14.4 million (gross) base rate increase.¹ The Petition indicates that Kingsport's rate proposals are based on a projected return on equity ("ROE") of 10.2%.² The Company's current Commission-approved ROE is 9.85%.³

Petition ¶¶ 4, 6. See also id. (estimating that Commission approval of all proposed rate adjustments would result in a net base rate increase \$6.9 million).

² Id. ¶ 7.

See In re Petition of Kingsport Power Company d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power for a General Rate Case, Tenn. Reg. Auth. Dkt. No. 16-00001, Order Approving Stipulation and Settlement Agreement, at 3, 6 (Oct. 19, 2016).

- 3. Kingsport provides electric distribution service to approximately 50,000 retail customers in Tennessee.⁴ Kingsport's Tennessee service territory includes the City of Kingsport, the Town of Mount Carmel, and parts of Sullivan, Washington and Hawkins Counties.⁵
- 4. ETEC is a coalition of three of Kingsport's largest Industrial Power consumers in Tennessee: Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., Domtar Paper Company, Inc., and Eastman Chemical Company.
- 5. Therefore, ETEC's members are directly interested in the issues to be decided in this case, including those relating to the reasonableness and implementation of any rate changes that the Commission may approve and the allocation of rate responsibility among the Company's customer classes.
- 6. ETEC must undertake discovery to properly evaluate the implications, relative to its members' interests, of the Company's proposals in this case, and to determine and address the reasonableness of such proposals.
- 7. Accordingly, and because there is no other party that exclusively represents the interests of its members, ETEC's participation as a party in this contested case is in the public interest.
- 8. Granting ETEC's petition will not impede the prompt and orderly conduct of these proceedings or otherwise prejudice or impair the interests of justice.
- 9. If ETEC's petition is granted, copies of all notices, correspondence, pleadings, orders, and other materials or communications filed or distributed to parties in this matter should be addressed to ETEC's legal counsel, as follows:

⁴ Petition ¶ 2.

⁵ *Id*.

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WHEREFORE, ETEC respectfully requests that the Commission enter an order granting this petition and allowing ETEC to participate as a party in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

EAST TENNESSEE ENERGY

CONSUMERS

Dated: January 12, 2022

Michael J. Quinan

(Tenn. Sup. Ct. No. 11104)

 $Thompson {\it McMullan}, P.C.$

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Counsel for East Tennessee Energy Consumers

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that, on January 12, 2022, this document was served by prepaid U.S. Mail, and by electronic mail, on the following:

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