IN THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:)	
)	
PETITION OF KINGSPORT POWER)	Docket No. 21-00107
COMPANY d/b/a AEP APPALACHIAN)	
POWER GENERAL RATE CASE)	
)	

PETITION TO INTERVENE

The Consumer Advocate Unit in the Financial Division of the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General ("Consumer Advocate"), by and through counsel, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-118, respectfully petitions the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or the "Commission") to grant the Consumer Advocate's intervention into this proceeding because consumers' interests, rights, duties, or privileges may be determined or affected by the Petition of Kingsport Power Company, d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power General Rate Case ("Petition") filed by Kingsport Power Company d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power ("Kingsport" or the "Company") in this docket. For cause, the Consumer Advocate would show as follows:

- 1. The Consumer Advocate is authorized under Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-118 to represent the interests of Tennessee consumers of public utility services by initiating and intervening as a party in any matter or proceeding before TPUC in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-5-101, et seq., and TPUC rules.
- 2. Kingsport, a public utility regulated by the Commission, distributes electric power to approximately 50,000 retail customers in its service area, which includes the City of Kingsport, Tennessee; the Town of Mt. Carmel, Tennessee; and parts of Sullivan County, Washington

County and Hawkins County, Tennessee.¹ All of Kingsport's electric power requirements are purchased from Appalachian Power Company.² Kingsport is a Virginia corporation with its principal office located in Kingsport, Sullivan County, Tennessee.³

- 3. Kingsport's current base rates were established by this Commission in TRA Docket No. 16-00001. The Consumer Advocate also intervened and participated in that matter.
- 4. In this Docket, Kingsport seeks an increase of approximately \$14.4 million to its base rates. ⁴ Because the Company is also proposing to reset its Targeted Reliability Plan & Major Storm Rider rates to \$0, the net increase to customers is approximately \$6.9 million. ⁵
- 5. In addition to the Company's proposed adjustment of rates, charges, and tariffs, Kingsport seeks inclusion of an average level of major storm expenses, updates to certain other costs, recovery of deferred pandemic expenses, and various tax adjustments.⁶
- 6. In support of its Petition, Kingsport contends that its current rates do not allow for a fair and reasonable return on its investment.⁷ Specifically, the Company stated that, as of June 2021, the rate of return on rate base after adjustments and assignments was -0.83%.⁸
- 7. Kingsport requests the Commission establish a Procedural Schedule designed to effectuate a result allowing the Company to implement these requested changes by July 1, 2022.9
- 8. The interests of consumers may be affected by determinations and orders made by TPUC with respect to: (1) the interpretation, application, and implementation of Tenn. Code Ann.

¹ Petition, p. 2, ¶2.

 $^{^2}$ Id. at p. 2, ¶2. The Company states that Appalachian Power Company's rates and charges are subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Id.

 $^{^3}$ Id.

⁴ *Id.* at p. 3, ¶4.

⁵ Id.

⁶ *Id.* at p. 2, ¶3.

⁷ *Id.* at p. 3, ¶5.

⁸ *Id*

⁹ *Id.* at p. 4, ¶10.

§ 65-5-103(a), Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-103(d), and other relevant statutory and regulatory provisions; and (2) the review and analysis of the Petitioners' documentation, financial spreadsheets, and other materials.

9. Only by participating as a party to this proceeding can the Consumer Advocate adequately carry out its statutory duty to represent the interests of Tennessee consumers.

Wherefore, the Consumer Advocate requests TPUC grant this Petition to Intervene.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

HERBERT H. SLATERY III BPR No. 09077)

Attorney General and Reporter

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Petition to Intervene was served via U.S. Mail, with a courtesy copy by electronic mail upon:

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This the 1st day of December , 2021.

VANCE L. BROEMEL

Senior Assistant Attorney General