

**From:** [PSC Public Comment](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Public Comments for Case: 2025-00186 -  
**Date:** Monday, July 14, 2025 10:06:00 AM

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Case No. 2025-00186

Thank you for your comments on the application of Electronic Investigation of Nuclear Energy, Generation, Storage, and Related Matters. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2025-00186 in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at [View Case Filings for: 2025-00186 \(ky.gov\)](#).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

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**From:** KY Public Service Commission Public Comments <psc.comment@ky.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 12, 2025 2:01 AM  
**To:** PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comments for Case: 2025-00186 -

Public Comments for Case 2025-00186 submitted by [REDACTED]  
on Saturday, July 12, 2025 at 2:00 AM

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Comments: Formal Comments to the Kentucky Public Service Commission on behalf of Generation Atomic RE: Request for Comments on Nuclear Power in Kentucky  
Generation Atomic respectfully submits these comments to the Kentucky Public Service Commission on behalf of our volunteers who have personal connections to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Kentucky has made a strategic decision for the residents of their state by exploring the possibility of nuclear power within its borders. Nuclear power has attracted significant federal attention this year as the United States works to strengthen its domestic energy security, and Kentucky could help lead the way. In addition to conducting internal studies, Kentucky can observe and learn from other

nuclear projects currently underway across the country. This represents an opportune time to explore nuclear power, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky is entering at the right moment. Nationally, on May 23, 2025, President Trump signed four Executive Orders (EOs) to boost the nuclear capacity in this country. The first directed reform at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to accelerate reviews and approvals of new designs and building permits. The second ordered the Department of Energy (DoE) to take a more active role in the deployment of pilot and prototype reactors outside of the NRC to facilitate learning how to build and deploy new reactor types. The third directed the Department of Defense (DoD) through the Army to develop a nuclear reactor program for military installations while directing the DoE to ensure a domestic fuel supply. The fourth aims to reinvigorate the existing nuclear base (Kriha, Hill, Cestari, McDonald, & Noll, 2025). Kentucky could benefit directly from the second and third Executive Orders. In accordance with the second EO, the DoE has released a request for application (RFA) for private companies to submit designs and build plans for reactors that could go critical before July 4, 2026 (Department of Energy, 2025). Kentucky should monitor this application process to identify companies with the potential to build successful reactors within our country. The third EO can benefit Kentucky directly through the construction of reactor plants to power Fort Knox and Fort Campbell. Beyond these Executive Orders, Kentucky has the potential to benefit from nuclear power through a coal-to-nuclear transition. Currently, Kentucky derives approximately 68% of its electricity from coal-burning power plants, representing the third-largest share after West Virginia and Wyoming (U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2025). The DoE has conducted studies demonstrating how the transition from coal to nuclear would provide net benefits for surrounding communities, particularly when a coal plant is scheduled to shut down or has been previously shuttered (Department of Energy, 2024). According to the DoE's Coal-to-Nuclear Transitions guide, a nuclear power plant replacing a coal power plant of similar capacity would create hundreds of additional jobs in the local community and generate millions of dollars in increased revenues and economic activity. For example, a 500 MWe nuclear plant would employ 140 people compared to 80 people at a similarly sized coal plant, representing a net gain of 60 jobs. The economic benefits extend beyond employment, with a 500 MWe nuclear facility generating an additional \$19.7 million in added income and \$148.5 million in added revenue for a community of 40,000-89,999 people compared to a coal plant of the same size. These figures demonstrate the significant economic multiplier effect that occurs when nuclear facilities replace coal plants, as nuclear operations require more skilled workers, pay higher wages, and generate greater local economic activity through supply chain spending and employee household expenditures (Department of Energy, 2024). In Wyoming, TerraPower, a Bill Gates-backed nuclear power company, is currently conducting the nation's first coal-to-nuclear project at Kemmerer (TerraPower, 2025).

Kentucky should study this project to collect lessons learned for its own transition. The current period represents a critical juncture of energy transition within the United States. Kentucky can become a national leader in an emerging technological field that will benefit its citizens for generations. The Kentucky Public Service Commission should research and strongly consider promoting the development of nuclear power within the state. The Commonwealth of Kentucky has long been a leading force within the coal industry. Now presents the opportunity to work toward a secure and equitable future for the state and its communities. The Commission should take immediate action to establish a comprehensive nuclear development framework that includes stakeholder engagement, site evaluation studies, and coordination with federal agencies. By positioning Kentucky as a pioneer in nuclear energy deployment, the state can attract investment, create high-paying jobs, and ensure energy security while building on its established expertise in power generation. The time to act is now, as federal support and technological advances create unprecedented opportunities for nuclear power development in Kentucky. Respectfully submitted, Generation Atomic Team Philip Hult Development Coordinator Generation Atomic Covington, KY Benjamin Kasper Government Team Lead Generation Atomic Fort Thomas, KY ----- On behalf of Generation Atomic volunteers with personal connections to the Commonwealth of Kentucky -----

References: Department of Energy. (2024, April 1). Coal to Nuclear Transitions: An Information Guide. Retrieved from Department of Energy: <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/Coal-to-Nuclear%20Transitions%20An%20Information%20Guide.pdf> Department of Energy. (2025, June 18). Energy Department Announces New Pathway to Test Advanced Reactors. Retrieved from Department of Energy: <https://www.energy.gov/articles/energy-department-announces-new-pathway-test-advanced-reactors> Kriha, A., Hill, J. A., Cestari, K. C., McDonald, T. R., & Noll, E. M. (2025, May 28). President Trump Signs 4 Executive Orders to Deploy New Nuclear Reactors, Strengthen Supply Chain. Retrieved from Holland & Knight: <https://www.hklaw.com/en/insights/publications/2025/05/president-trump-signs-4-executive-orders> Terrapower. (2025, July 7). Wyoming. Retrieved from Terrapower: <https://www.terrapower.com/wyoming/> U.S. Energy Information Administration. (2025, March). Kentucky State Page. Retrieved from U.S. Energy Information Administration: <https://www.eia.gov/state/?sid=KY#tabs-4>

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