

### CASE # 2020-00215

Members of the Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort KY 40601

Re: Broadband in Western Kentucky

Commissioners –

RECEIVED

AUG 3 1 2020

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I am writing to show my support of Kenergy's broadband deployment project. I want regulated electric cooperatives to be able to provide high-speed broadband services to my community, just as municipals and TVA cooperatives do today. Our community has limited, if any, availability to reliable, high-speed internet. This critical infrastructure is essential to business, healthcare, education and quality of life.

I support the effort of Kenergy Corp. to ensure the availability of high-speed internet in all areas of Kentucky, specifically our rural communities. As chairman of the Daviess County Public Schools Board of Education, it is essential that we are able to connect all students to online learning and digital information, especially now as schools are conducting classes virtually. Every child has the right to a meaningful learning experience, and extending broadband services into the homes of every student is an important step in making that possible.

Extending broadband services to rural areas is the modern-day equivalent of rural electrification in the 1930's. Electric cooperatives have existing infrastructure throughout our region, which makes a perfect fit to be a broadband service provider.

I am requesting your approval of Kenergy's request for a waiver, which will expedite this project in a timely manner, ensuring electric cooperatives can secure financing for the buildout.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project, one that will positively impact my community and transform western Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Chairman, Dayess County Public Schools Board of Education

1622 Southeastern Parkway, Owensboro KY 42303

270-852-7000 board@dcps.org



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Sincerely,

**Dale Stewart** 

Vice Chairman, Daviess County Public Schools Board of Education 1622 Southeastern Parkway, Owensboro KY 42303 270-852-7000 board@dcps.org



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Sincerely,

Matt Robbins

Superintendent, Daviess County Public Schools 1622 Southeastern Parkway, Owensboro KY 42303 270-852-7000 matt.robbins@daviess.kyschools.us



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Frank G. Riney III

Daviess County Public Schools Board of Education 1622 Southeastern Parkway, Owensboro KY 42303

S. River III

270-852-7000 board@dcps.org



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Todd Anderson

Daviess County Public Schools Board of Education 1622 Southeastern Parkway, Owensboro KY 42303

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Sincerely,

James Morgan

Daviess County Public Schools Board of Education 1622 Southeastern Parkway, Owensboro KY 42303 270-852-7000 board@dcps.org