

-Perry M. Fowler-
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Whitesburg, Kentucky

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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

PSC
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY. 40602-0615

December 1, 2025

Ref. Case No. 2025-00257

Madam Chair,

Thank you and the commission members for allowing the customers of American Electric Power/Kentucky Power the opportunity to voice an opinion concerning the request for a rate increase.

My name is Perry Fowler, a life long resident of Whitesburg in Letcher County, Kentucky. Make no mistake, I am a capitalist and AEP is a very dynamic company. It is worthy of investment for any portfolio. Sarcastically, I hope part of their business plan is not to constantly seek rate increases to help pay shareholders quarterly dividends. One has but to Google the company and see their success.

AEP states the decline in population of Letcher county and southeastern Kentucky is one, and a main cause for seeking this latest increase. The population is and will continue to decline, probably well into the future. Most of the loss is from the post-secondary youth not returning to this area, for many reasons, mainly economic. The census shows approximately eleven thousand residential structures in Letcher county. These households continue to purchase electrical energy.

Nature has treated us harshly the last few years and we have lost homes and businesses. However, I feel the largest loss for the power companies is the sharp and deep decline of the coal industry and the vendors that supplied the coal industry.

It is well known by everyone, including the power companies the older and poorer constructed houses in eastern Kentucky are not insulated to a point they are energy efficient to any degree. A great many were built when homes were heated with plentiful coal. Most of the energy deficient homes are owned or rented by the elderly and the poorer of our citizens. Many grandparents, on "fixed incomes" are now raising their grandchildren. An unexpected financial burden. A lot of this stems from the pharmaceutical industry.

American Electric Power/ Kentucky Power also refers to the lack of economic development, no financial investments by banks and no individual entrepreneurial development as a stumbling block for the future of eastern Kentucky, especially Letcher county. So, is it their intent to make us pay, literally, for the circumstances of our cold, dark and dire future?

One can only hope they could use a fraction of their vast resources to combine with local and state agencies to help make the "leaky" homes more energy efficient. Kentucky Power Company can play an important role for our citizens to be able to afford heat, RATHER THAN CONTINUE THESE HIDEOUS RATE INCREASES THAT HAMMER THE WELL BEING AND DIGNITY OUT OF OUR PEOPLE.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Perry M. Fowler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Perry M. Fowler, citizen.