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From: Zachary Tackett [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 3, 2026 7:47 AM
To: PSC Executive Director <PSCED@ky.gov>
Subject: Case No. 2026-00159

In the Matter of:

Electronic Investigation into the Management and Operation of Kentucky Power Company

Case No. [2026-00159](#)

Request for Public Participation, Transparency, and Public Submission Process

The undersigned respectfully requests that the Kentucky Public Service Commission establish procedures that provide for meaningful public participation throughout this management audit proceeding and assist the independent auditor in conducting a thorough, transparent, and well-informed review of Kentucky Power Company's management and operations.

The Commission initiated this investigation after determining that an independent management audit of Kentucky Power Company is warranted. Because this proceeding concerns the management and operation of a public utility whose decisions directly affect the cost, reliability, and quality of electric service provided to approximately 160,000 Kentuckians, meaningful public participation will strengthen both the transparency and effectiveness of this important investigation.

The substantial public interest surrounding Kentucky Power further supports providing opportunities for public participation. Through the Creek Don't Rise Coalition, thousands of Kentucky residents have engaged in discussions regarding utility transparency, accountability, affordability,

reliability, and long-term planning. In addition, county fiscal courts throughout Kentucky Power's service territory have adopted resolutions requesting increased oversight and accountability concerning matters affecting Kentucky Power customers. These actions demonstrate that this proceeding is of significant public interest and that customers and local communities possess valuable knowledge and experience that may assist the independent auditor and the Commission.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Commission consider establishing the following procedures:

1. A public comment period following the filing of the independent auditor's report.
2. One or more public hearings within Kentucky Power's service territory to allow customers, local governments, businesses, emergency management officials, consumer organizations, and other interested stakeholders an opportunity to provide testimony regarding matters relevant to the audit.
3. A publicly accessible electronic portal, dedicated email address, or other appropriate method through which members of the public may voluntarily submit information directly to the independent auditor throughout the audit process.
4. A process allowing current and former employees, contractors, local officials, businesses, consumer advocates, and individual customers to voluntarily submit information they believe may assist the auditor in evaluating Kentucky Power Company's management and operational practices.
5. Publication of the independent auditor's final report and all non-confidential supporting materials in a timely manner following completion of the audit.

Examples of information that members of the public may wish to submit include, but are not limited to:

- Records obtained pursuant to the Kentucky Open Records Act;
- Information concerning reliability, outage restoration, vegetation management, customer service, operational performance, and emergency response;
- Documents or communications relating to management or operational

- practices;
- Historical information concerning Company planning and operations;
- Information relating to community impacts resulting from management decisions; and
- Other information that individuals believe may assist the auditor in conducting a comprehensive review.

The independent auditor should retain sole discretion to determine the relevance, credibility, and weight of any information received.

Providing an avenue for voluntary public submissions would not compromise the auditor's independence. Rather, it would help ensure that the auditor has access to information, experiences, and perspectives that may not otherwise be reflected in Company records or interviews conducted during the course of the audit.

Meaningful public participation will strengthen the transparency, completeness, and public confidence in this proceeding while assisting the Commission in fulfilling its responsibility to ensure that Kentucky utilities are managed in a manner consistent with the public interest.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Commission establish procedures that promote transparency, facilitate meaningful public participation, and provide the independent auditor with an appropriate mechanism for receiving relevant information from the public throughout this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Tackett

Creek Don't Rise Coalition