

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:

APPLICATION OF KENERGY CORP. FOR A )                   CASE NO.  
WAIVER PURSUANT TO KRS 278.2219 )                   2020-00215

TESTIMONY OF LESLYE KRAMPE OF KENERGY CORP.

Applicant, Kenergy Corp. (“Kenergy”) submits the attached testimony of Leslye Krampe of Kenergy in support of the Application in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

**DORSEY, GRAY, NORMENT & HOPGOOD**  
318 Second Street  
Henderson, KY 42420  
Telephone (270) 826-3965  
Telefax (270) 826-6672  
Attorneys for Kenergy Corp.

By \_\_\_\_\_

  
**J. Christopher Hopgood**  
[chopgood@dkgnlaw.com](mailto:chopgood@dkgnlaw.com)

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing was served by electronic filing to the Kentucky Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, KY 40602 with a copy served electronically to the Kentucky Attorney General, Office of Rate Intervention, 700 Capital Avenue, Suite 20, Frankfort, KY 40601-8204, on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

  
Counsel for Kenergy Corp.

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**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

5 **In the Matter of:** )  
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7 **KENERGY CORP. FOR APPLICATION FOR** ) **CASE NO. 2020-00215**  
8 **A WAIVER PURSUANT TO KRS 278.2219** )

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11  
12

**TESTIMONY OF LESLYE KRAMPE**

13 Q1. Please state your name, business address and position with Kenergy.

14  
15 A. Leslye Krampe, 6402 Old Corydon Road, Henderson, Kentucky 42420. I am  
16 Commercial Accounts and Economic Development Specialist.

17  
18 Q2. What is your educational background?

19  
20 A. My resume is attached.

21  
22 Q3. What is your work experience?

23  
24 A. My resume is attached.

25  
26 Q4. Have you previously submitted testimony or sworn applications before the  
27 Kentucky Public Service Commission?

28  
29 A. No.

30  
31 Q5. Have you previously submitted testimony before other regulatory agencies?

32  
33 A. No.

34  
35 Q6. Are you familiar with Kenergy's desire to provide broadband service in its territory  
36 through a subsidiary.

37  
38 A. Yes, I have been in communication with area school, association and government  
39 leaders to gauge the support for this project.

1 Q7. Has Kenergy received letters of support from elected officials and statewide  
2 associations?  
3

4 A. Yes, attached are letters from Congressman James Comer and Commissioner of  
5 Agriculture Ryan Quarles. Also attached is a letter from Mark Haney, President of  
6 Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation. In addition, area state representatives and  
7 senators have filed their support letters with the Kentucky Public Service  
8 Commission.  
9

10 Q8. Has Kenergy's members been supportive of a potential broadband subsidiary?  
11

12 A. Yes, Kenergy has had thousands of Facebook comments or "likes" supporting the  
13 development of high speed internet. Also, many Kenergy members have submitted  
14 public comment to the Commission.  
15

16 Q8. How would high speed internet help residential and commercial members?  
17

18 A. Our commercial members like any commercial business are more and more  
19 dependent on the internet. Orders, billing and electronic payment of invoices over  
20 the internet is becoming the rule rather than the exception. Like an assembly line,  
21 the faster commerce can move, the more efficient a business becomes. Pitting a  
22 business without high speed internet against a competitor that has such access  
23 renders a competitive disadvantage.  
24

25 As for residential members, entertainment and family business (such as bill pay,  
26 online banking and tax preparation) depend more and more on fast internet service.  
27 With the advent of Covid, school work and adults working from home has  
28 magnified the need for high speed internet in our territory. Large portions of our  
29 territory have no high speed access.

CASE NO. 2020-00215

VERIFICATION

I hereby verify, state and affirm that the testimony filed herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.


  
LESLYE KRAMPE

STATE OF KENTUCKY

COUNTY OF Henderson

The foregoing was signed, acknowledged and sworn to before me by LESLYE KRAMPE, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

My commission expires 1-14-22

  
Notary Public, State of Kentucky at Large  
Notary ID # 593154

JENNIFER S. BELL  
Notary Public - State At Large  
Kentucky - Notary Id # 593154  
My Commission Expires 01/14/2022

**Leslye D. Krampe**  
6402 Old Corydon Road  
Henderson, KY 42420  
Work: (270) 831-4640  
lkrampe@kenergycorp.com

<b>EDUCATION:</b>	<b><u>Murray State University</u></b>	Henderson, Kentucky May 2005
	Degree: Bachelor of Science Area: Business Administration	
	<b><u>Henderson Community College</u></b>	Henderson, Kentucky August 2004
	Degree: Associates in Arts	
<b>CAREER RELATED EXPERIENCE:</b>		
August 2016 – Present	<b><u>Kenergy Corp.</u></b>	Henderson, Kentucky
	Commercial Accounts & Economic Development Specialist	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Promotes Commercial &amp; Industrial (C&amp;I) services through building relationships with Kenergy's 19 large industrial members and top 50 commercial members</li><li>- Meet with commercial and industrial members to discuss energy usage, billing history, power factor, outage restoration, future load growth, rate adjustments, etc.</li><li>- Oversee contract changes and service agreements for large industrial members</li><li>- Assists in promoting energy efficiency programs for C&amp;I members</li><li>- Plan and execute the annual golf outing for C&amp;I members</li><li>- Develop relationships with local economic development organizations throughout Kenergy's 14-county service territory</li><li>- Assist local economic development organizations by providing electric information for RFIs and participating in site visits as needed</li><li>- Attend local events throughout Kenergy's service territory to develop relationships with members and promote Kenergy's commitment to the communities it serves</li><li>- Develop professional relationships with the Cabinet for Economic Development office in Frankfort</li><li>- Promote broadband in west Kentucky for economic growth</li></ul>	
May 2015 – August 2016	<b><u>Field &amp; Main Bank</u></b>	Henderson, Kentucky
	Vice President, Facilities Officer	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Oversee and administer all bank properties, facilities, vehicles, equipment, as well as construction, repairs and maintenance to ensure a clean, orderly and safe environment for customers and employees</li><li>- Work closely with Senior Management and Board of Directors, vendors, contractors and government agencies regarding the placement, expansion, renovation or closure of bank facilities</li><li>- Oversee multiple construction and renovation projects to improve efficiency and to ensure that facilities meet environmental, health &amp; security standards, and also comply with government regulations</li><li>- Participate in architectural and engineering planning &amp; design and supervise installation</li><li>- Prepare and review operational proposals, reports, invoices and schedules to ensure accuracy and efficiency</li><li>- Analyze internal processes and recommend and implement procedural or policy changes to improve operations</li><li>- Manage more than 70+ vendor relationships</li><li>- Organize multiple areas of the Bank, including inventories and supplies</li></ul>	
July 2010 – May 2015	<b><u>Field &amp; Main Bank, formerly known as Ohio Valley Financial Group</u></b>	Henderson, Kentucky
	Credit Analyst II	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Worked directly with the Credit Manager to manage the Bank's \$320MM loan portfolio</li><li>- Completed new loan requests, with aggregate relationships from \$150M up to \$5MM</li><li>- Completed annual loan reviews on consumer &amp; commercial loans</li><li>- Spread financial information in Moody's software</li><li>- Completed monthly reports for the Board of Directors, excluding ALLL report</li><li>- Managed financial document tracking</li><li>- Presented credit requests at Officer Loan Committee</li><li>- Secretary for the Officer Loan Committee</li><li>- Managed the credit card portfolio</li><li>- Sold the Bank's credit card portfolio – Received a quarterly bank-wide award</li><li>- Assisted with bank merger by helping form Field &amp; Main Bank's loan policy</li></ul>	

Nov. 2005 – July 2010

**Fifth Third Bank**

Henderson / Morganfield, Kentucky

Customer Service Manager / Assistant Center Manager /  
Retail Associate / Financial Service Representative

- Provided support for the Financial Center Manager
- Measured, reviewed, & monitored goals and expectations for the Financial Center
- Performed monthly compliance audits on the Financial Center
- Created various Excel spreadsheets to document branch success for region
- Managed Financial Center's day-to-day operations
- Supervised Customer Service Representatives
- Scheduled, coached, & counseled employees
- Initiated, processed, & closed approved loans
- Opened new accounts; checking, savings, Certificate of Deposits, IRAs, etc.
- Researched financial information; statements, transactions, disputes, etc.
- Researched and reported fraudulent activities on accounts
- Assisted customers with investment opportunities

**SPECIAL SKILLS:** Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook

**TRAINING &  
AWARDS:**

Certified Key Account Executive (CKAE) from National Rural Electric Cooperative Association  
Henderson Leadership Initiative Graduate – Class of 2019  
Junior Achievement of West Kentucky – Henderson Advisory Board member  
Junior Achievement of West Kentucky volunteer teacher at Holy Name School  
Henderson Rotary Club member  
Father Bradley Shelter for Women and Children Board Member  
POW! Partnership of Women member  
Henderson Economic Development Board Member  
Hancock County Industrial Foundation Board Member  
Kentucky Association of Economic Development (KAED) Member

**OTHER TRAINING  
& AWARDS:**

Facility Management Certificate Program from University of Southern Indiana  
Glenn Shepard Management Seminar – How to Supervise People and Lead a Team  
Fred Pryor Seminars – Making the Transition from Staff to Supervisor & Project Management Workshop  
Completed multiple Credit Analyst related training seminars through the Kentucky Bankers Association  
Completed Supervisory Education Program for bank management at Fifth Third Bank  
2011 Banking at the Max Award recipient for exceptional customer service while transferring Ohio Valley Financial Group's credit card portfolio

**REFERENCES:** Available upon request

July 28, 2020

Members of the Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Re: Broadband in Western Kentucky

Chairman Schmitt, Commissioner Chandler, and Commissioner Matthews:

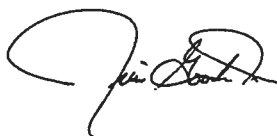
As elected legislators for the following fourteen Kentucky counties: Daviess, Henderson, Hancock, Hopkins, Ohio, Webster, McLean, Crittenden, Union, Lyon, Caldwell, Livingston, Muhlenberg and Breckinridge; we are writing to express our support of Kenergy Corp's broadband deployment project. This initiative will drastically improve the economic stability and quality of life for thousands of rural Kentuckians. Many counties have limited, if any, availability to reliable, high-speed internet. Most are either severely underserved or not served at all. This critical infrastructure is essential to business, healthcare, education, agriculture and quality of life.

Extending broadband services to rural areas is the modern-day equivalent of rural electrification in the 1930's. While cost prohibitive for many providers to build infrastructure for only a handful of customers, electric cooperatives have existing infrastructure in place already, making them the perfect fit for those underserved customers throughout our state.

The current COVID-19 pandemic is a perfect example of how vital high-speed broadband is for citizens and students required to work and study from home. Kentucky's electric cooperatives regulated by TVA have already begun closing the gap in many areas of west Kentucky, but these only represent a fraction of the unserved and underserved population. Ensuring regulated electric cooperatives have the same opportunity to secure financing for a broadband buildout is vital to the success of our rural communities.

Thank you for your consideration of Kenergy's request for a waiver in order to pursue this important project - one that will positively impact economic development and transform western Kentucky.

Sincerely,

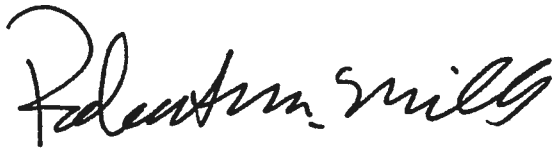


Representative Jim Gooch  
District 12

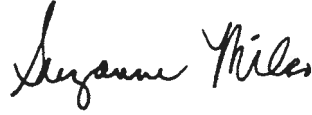


Senator Matt Castlen  
District 8





Senator Robby Mills  
District 4



Representative Suzanne Miles  
District 7



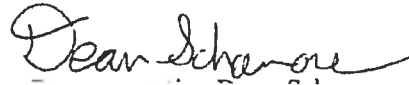
Representative Scott Lewis  
District 14



Representative Rob Wiederstein  
District 11



Representative Myron Dossett  
District 9



Representative Dean Schamore  
District 10



Senator Stan Humphries  
District 01



Representative Chris Freeland  
District 6



Representative Lynn Bechler  
District 4



Representative Jim Glenn  
District 13



Representative Melinda Gibbons Prunty  
District 15



## Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation

9201 Bunsen Parkway • P.O. Box 20700 • Louisville, KY 40250-0700  
Telephone (502) 495-5000 • Fax (502) 495-5114 • kyfb.com

MARK HANEY  
President

EDDIE MELTON  
First Vice President

SHARON FURCHES  
Second Vice President

DREW GRAHAM  
Executive Vice President

July 6, 2020

The Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Re: Broadband in Western Kentucky

Chairman Schmitt, Commissioner Chandler, and Commissioner Matthews:

Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation appreciates the opportunity to express our support for a project to improve the economic stability and quality of life for thousands of rural Kentuckians. Many Kentucky citizens today have limited - if any - access to reliable, high-speed internet. Most are either severely underserved or not served at all. This critical infrastructure is essential to agriculture, business, healthcare, education, and the quality of life.

The current COVID-19 pandemic has only amplified how vital high-speed broadband is for citizens and students required to work and study from home. As an organization that has made broadband and high-speed internet access across the Commonwealth a priority issue, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation feels a waiver allowing Kenergy the ability to provide funding for an affiliate broadband service provider will be key to ensuring the future viability of west Kentucky.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mark Haney'.

Mark Haney  
President

MH:rt

July 10, 2020

The Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Re: Broadband Waiver in Western Kentucky

Chairman Schmitt, Commissioner Chandler and Commissioner Matthews:

On behalf Consumer Energy Alliance (CEA), a diverse group representing families, small businesses and men and women from various industries, including labor, manufacturing, small business and conservation across the nation and Kentucky, I'm writing today to share our support of a waiver to allow Kenergy Corp to provide broadband service.

CEA appreciates the opportunity to offer its comments and share our express our support for a project that will help improve the lives of thousands of families and businesses across rural Kentucky at a time when our Commonwealth is struggling. In May 2020, nearly 40 percent of our workforce filed for unemployment. While the economic pain of COVID-19 is starting to slowly recede, we know that many of our rural communities were facing difficult financial circumstances before the arrival of the pandemic. Kentucky is one of the most underserved states in the country for broadband service, with many parts of our Commonwealth having limited or no high-speed internet service at all. In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy, access to this critical infrastructure is vital to businesses, schools, hospitals, and nearly every aspect of our lives.

The on-going COVID-19 pandemic has only underscored how critical high-speed broadband is for much of our workforce and students that were required to do non-traditional instruction from home. As an organization dedicated to advocating for the needs of consumers, small businesses, and those on fixed incomes across Kentucky we believe it is imperative that our policymakers look for ways they can reduce the financial burden so many are experiencing. Fortunately, an opportunity has been presented before the Commission where it can address a long-standing public need and help rejuvenate areas of rural Kentucky. It is our understanding that Kenergy Corp has applied for a waiver that would authorize it to provide funding for an affiliate broadband service provider to upgrade and expand future service for communities in west Kentucky.

We urge you to support this waiver which could help revitalize rural western Kentucky. Thank you for your consideration of this important project, and the opportunity to provide our comments.

Sincerely,



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Brydon Ross  
VP of State Affairs  
CEA

July 17, 2020

The Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Re: Broadband in Western Kentucky

Chairman Schmitt, Commissioner Matthews and Commissioner Chandler:

As the leading economic development agencies for the following counties: Daviess, Henderson, Hancock, Hopkins, Ohio, Webster, McLean, Crittenden, Union, Lyon, Caldwell, Livingston, Muhlenberg and Breckinridge; we appreciate the opportunity to express our support of a project guaranteed to improve the economic stability and quality of life for thousands of rural Kentuckians. Many Kentucky citizens today have limited - if any - access to reliable, high-speed internet. Most are either severely underserved or not served at all. This critical infrastructure is essential to business, healthcare, education, agriculture and quality of life.

The current COVID-19 pandemic has only amplified how vital high-speed broadband is for citizens and students required to work and study from home. Combined, our separate missions to attract new business to the Commonwealth and improve the quality of life for current residents will be directly impacted by the success of Kenergy's broadband deployment project. The granting of a waiver allowing Kenergy the ability to provide funding for an affiliate broadband service provider is key to ensuring the future viability of west Kentucky.

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

Sincerely,



Brittaney Johnson  
President/CEO, Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corporation



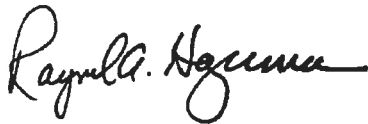
Missy Vanderpool  
Executive Director, Henderson Economic Development



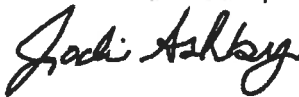
Mike Baker  
Director, Hancock County Industrial Foundation



Amanda Davenport  
Executive Director, Lake Barkley Partnership



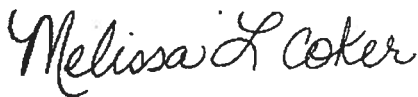
Ray Hagerman  
President, Madisonville – Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation



Jodi Ashby  
Executive Director, Ohio County Economic Development Alliance



Meredith Steiner  
Director, Webster County Community and Economic Development



Melissa Coker  
Economic & Community Development Director, Union County First



Gary Jones  
Director, Muhlenberg Alliance for Progress

July 16, 2020

Members of the Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
211 Sower Blvd.  
Frankfort, KY 40602

Re: Broadband in Western Kentucky

Chairman Schmitt, Commissioner Matthews and Commissioner Chandler:

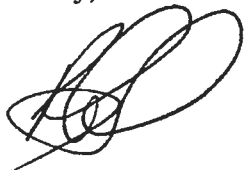
As current Judge Executives for the following thirteen Kentucky counties: Henderson, Hancock, Hopkins, Ohio, Webster, McLean, Crittenden, Union, Lyon, Caldwell, Livingston, Muhlenberg and Breckinridge, we are writing to show our support for Kenergy Corp's broadband deployment project. We want regulated electric cooperatives to be able to provide high-speed broadband services to our constituents, just as municipals and TVA cooperatives do today. Our counties have limited, if any, availability to reliable, high-speed internet. Most of our counties are either severely underserved or not served at all. This critical infrastructure is essential to business, healthcare, education, agriculture and quality of life.

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.

We are 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 economic development and transform western Kentucky.

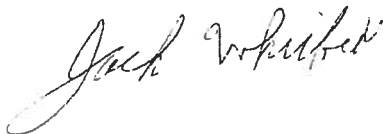
Sincerely,



Brad Schneider  
Henderson County Judge Executive



Johnny Roberts  
Hancock County Judge Executive



Jack Whitfield Jr.  
Hopkins County Judge Executive



Steve Henry  
Webster County Judge Executive



David Johnston  
Ohio County Judge Executive



Perry Newcom  
Crittenden County Judge Executive




Curtis Dame  
McLean County Judge Executive



Wade White  
Lyon County Judge Executive



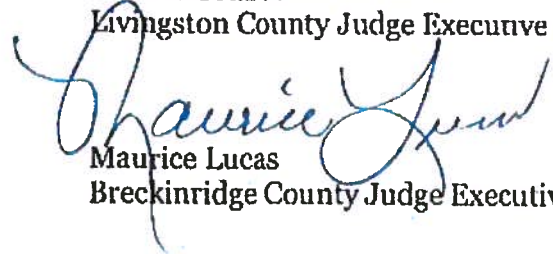
Adam O'Nan  
Union County Judge Executive



Garrett Gruber  
Livingston County Judge Executive



Larry Curling  
Caldwell County Judge Executive



Maurice Lucas  
Breckinridge County Judge Executive



Curtis McGehee  
Muhlenberg County Judge Executive



July 16, 2020

Members of the Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Re: Expanding Broadband Service in Western Kentucky

Chairman Schmitt, Commissioner Matthews and Commissioner Chandler:

The Kentucky School Boards Association, comprised of all 1,028 locally elected board of education members and school superintendents in the Commonwealth, appreciates the opportunity to express our support of a project guaranteed to improve the education, economic stability and quality of life for thousands of rural Kentuckians, many of whom are students in our public schools in Western Kentucky. Many Kentucky citizens today have limited - if any - access to reliable, high-speed internet. Most are either severely underserved or not served at all. This critical infrastructure is essential to business, healthcare, agriculture, quality of life, and most of all to high-quality twenty-first century education.

KSBA has joined with other education stakeholders in Kentucky to advocate for expansion of reliable, high-speed broadband service to all our students, families and teachers to provide essential instruction and supports. This has taken on heightened importance as our teachers and district leaders navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, which has required expanded distance learning at all ages, and created what may be our new normal for schooling in the months to come.

As an association of Kentuckians dedicated to providing educating each and every child, we have discussed the unique needs of the local community with our members there and we believe that a waiver allowing Kenergy to provide funding for an affiliate broadband service provider will be key to ensuring the future viability of its service territory in west Kentucky, and will greatly support the ability of the local public schools to serve their students.

Thank you for your consideration of this project, and the impact it will have on education.

Sincerely,

Kerri Schelling  
Executive Director



Ryan F. Quarles  
Commissioner



Corporate Drive  
Complex  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 573-0282

## Kentucky Department of Agriculture

July 17, 2020

The Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Re: Broadband in Western Kentucky

Chairman Schmitt, Commissioner Matthews and Commissioner Chandler:

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture appreciates the opportunity to express our support for a project proposed by Kenergy that we believe will improve the economy and quality of life for thousands of rural Kentuckians. The proposal from Kenergy will increase access to broadband Internet – a critical need in the modern economy.

I recently wrote in an opinion editorial about how broadband is a critical tool for our farm families. It's not just about being able to Google something; it's about being able to grow something. Western Kentucky knows this all too well, as that region is an agricultural stronghold for our state.

However, this problem doesn't just affect the bottom line of our farm families. It's an unfortunate reality that many Kentucky citizens today have limited - if any - access to reliable, high-speed internet. Most are either severely underserved or not served at all. The COVID-19 pandemic has drawn more attention to how vital high-speed broadband is for our citizens and students, who for months have been required to work and study at home. This critical infrastructure is essential to business, healthcare, education, and a high quality of life. Access to broadband Internet is a necessity for the economic well-being of the lives of all citizens, but especially those in rural Kentucky.

The waiver sought by Kenergy will better the lives of rural Kentuckians by allowing the electric cooperative to provide funding to an affiliated broadband service provider so we can ensure a bright future for western Kentucky.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project and if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Quarles".

Dr. Ryan F. Quarles  
Commissioner of Agriculture  
Commonwealth of Kentucky

ath/rfq



JAMES COMER  
1ST DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

1037 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-3115

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-1701

DISTRICT OFFICES  
200 NORTH MAIN STREET  
SUITE F  
TOMPKINSVILLE KY 42167  
300 SOUTH 3RD STREET  
PADUCAH, KY 42003  
67 NORTH MAIN STREET  
MADISONVILLE, KY 42431

July 20, 2020

The Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Re: Broadband in Western Kentucky

Chairman Schmitt,

As Kentucky's 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District Representative serving the citizens of 35 western Kentucky counties, I am writing to ask your support of a project guaranteed to improve the economic stability and quality of life for thousands of rural Kentuckians. My desire is for ALL electric cooperatives to have the ability to provide broadband services to our constituents. Many counties have limited, if any, availability to reliable, high-speed internet. Most are either severely underserved or not served at all. This critical infrastructure is essential to business, healthcare, education, agriculture and quality of life.

Extending broadband services to rural areas is the modern-day equivalent of rural electrification in the 1930's. While cost prohibitive for many providers to build infrastructure for only a handful of customers, electric cooperatives have existing infrastructure in place already, making them the perfect fit for those underserved customers throughout our state.

The current COVID-19 pandemic is a perfect example of how vital high-speed broadband is for citizens and students required to work and study from home. Kentucky's electric cooperatives, regulated by TVA, have already begun closing the gap in many areas of the 1<sup>st</sup> District, but these only represent a fraction of the unserved and underserved population. Ensuring KPSC regulated electric cooperatives have the same opportunity to secure financing is vital to the success of our rural communities.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this important project, one that will positively impact economic development and transform western Kentucky.

Sincerely,

