

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE KENTUCKY STATE BOARD ON
ELECTRIC GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION SITING

IN THE MATTER OF:

THE ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF)	
WEIRS CREEK SOLAR, LLC FOR A)	
CERTIFICATE TO CONSTRUCT AN)	
APPROXIMATELY 150 MEGAWATT)	
MERCHANT SOLAR ELECTRIC)	CASE NO.
GENERATING FACILITY IN WEBSTER)	2024-00099
COUNTY AND HOPKINS COUNTY,)	
KENTUCKY PURSUANT TO KRS 278.700)	
ET SEQ. AND 807 KAR 5:110)	

WEIRS CREEK SOLAR LLC'S
PROOF OF NOTICE OF OCTOBER 9, 2024 PUBLIC HEARING

Comes now Weirs Creek Solar, LLC (“Weirs Creek” or “Applicant”), by counsel, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:110, Section 9(1), and does hereby give notice of the filing of its proof of publication of the attached public hearing notice in the *Madisonville Messenger*, the *Providence Journal Enterprise*, and the *Sebree Banner*.

This the 1st day of October 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather S. Temple

L. Allyson Honaker
Brittany Hayes Koenig
Heather S. Temple
HONAKER LAW OFFICE PLLC
1795 Alysheba Way, Suite 1203
Lexington, KY 40509
(859) 368-8803

Counsel for Weirs Creek Solar, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that the electronic filing was transmitted to the Commission on October 1, 2024, and that there are currently no parties that the Commission has excused from participation by electronic means in this proceeding. Pursuant to the Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085 no paper copies of this filing will be made.

Heather S. Temple

Counsel for Weirs Creek Solar, LLC

NOTARIZED PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF KENTUCKY

COUNTY OF FRANKLIN

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for said County and State, this 30th day of

September, 2024, came Holly Willard personally known to me, who being

duly sworn, states as follows: That she is the Bookkeeping Assistant of the

Kentucky Press Service and the attached sheets show proof of publication for the

Nextera Energy Resources ad that ran in the Madisonville Messenger on September 24, 2024,

Providence Journal Enterprise on September 26, 2024 and Sebree Banner on

September 25, 2024.

Signed Holly Willard

Notary Public Bonnie J. Howard

My commission expires 9-18-2028
KYNP # 14119



KENTUCKY PRESS SERVICE

101 CONSUMER LANE
FRANKFORT, KY 40601

Voice (502) 223-8821 Fax (502) 226-3867

Monday, September 30, 2024 11:23 AM

Page 1 of 1

Invoice

Agency Naomi Morrison
Nextera Energy Resources
6619 146th Rd N
West Palm Beach, FL 33418

Invoice Date 9/30/2024
PO Number
Order 24094NN0

Client Nextera Energy Resources
Reps Rachel McCarty

Vendor	Run Date	Ad Size	Rate Name	Rate	Color Rate Name	Color Rate	Discount	Total
MADISONVILLE MESSENGER	9/24/2024	1 x 3.5	CLDIS	\$22.49		\$0.00	0.0000%	\$78.72
	Caption	Notice of Public Meeting						
PROVIDENCE JOURNAL-ENTERPRISE	9/26/2024	1 x 3.5	CLDIS	\$7.04		\$0.00	0.0000%	\$24.64
	Caption	Notice of Public Meeting						
SEBREE BANNER	9/25/2024	1 x 3.5	CLDIS	\$5.00		\$0.00	0.0000%	\$17.50
	Caption	Notice of Public Meeting						

Total Advertising	\$120.86
Discounts	\$0.00
Misc. Charges	\$0.00
USA Tax	\$0.00
Total Invoice	\$120.86
Payments	\$0.00
Adjustments	\$0.00
Balance Due	\$120.86

ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING TEARSHEETS AND/OR REQUESTS FOR ACCOUNT CREDIT MUST BE MADE WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS INVOICE. IF THE REQUEST IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN FIVE DAYS, THE CLIENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FULL PAYMENT OF THE INVOICE AMOUNT.

As of MAY 1, 2017, a 2.5 percent convenience fee will be added if paying by Credit Card. Amount Due Subject to 1.5% Service Charge After 30 Days Please Pay From This Invoice. No Statement Will Be Sent.

UK rural sociologist helps communities through data

BY BAILEY VANDIVER
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

If there is one phrase that sums up Julie Zimmerman's work, it's "You had me at rural."

As the Milton Coughenour Professor of Rural Sociology in the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Department of Community and Leadership Development and applied demographer for UK Cooperative Extension, Zimmerman's career has been focused on all things rural.

Nicknamed "Dr. Data" and "the Numbers Lady," Zimmerman's extension efforts involve providing data related to Kentucky residents. Through her work in rural sociology, which is applied sociological research focused on rural people and places, Zimmerman applies "sociological tools to practical ends."

Twenty-seven years into her career at UK, Zimmerman continues to demonstrate her commitment to Extension and to Kentucky's communities.

'The human element in agriculture'

Helping with historical research first got Zimmerman interested in rural sociology. After earning her bachelor's and master's degrees in sociology, she received her doctorate from Cornell University. The summer before she started at Cornell, Zimmerman made calls to see if anyone needed a graduate student.

Olaf F. Larson, a retired professor work-



Sabrina Hounshell/UK

Julie Zimmerman, the Milton Coughenour Professor of Rural Sociology at the University of Kentucky, applies "sociological tools to practical ends."

ing on the history of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, hired Zimmerman. Zimmerman's introduction to rural sociology came through helping Larson create a bibliography and book about its history. The more she learned, the more interested she became.

"I tell my students to this day—make the phone call, send the email," Zimmerman said. "My entire trajectory in rural sociology came through that, then I turned to doing rural demography, and voila."

There's a story about rural sociology's origins that Zimmerman read somewhere and still shares, though she stresses that it's "Julie's version."

As the story goes, Cornell horticulturalist Liberty Hyde Bailey was

visiting apple orchard farms during the agricultural depression at the end of the 19th century.

Print outs of powerpoint slides.

Julie Zimmerman uses these slides to teach rural sociology. Photo by Sabrina Hounshell.

He looked at the apples, and the apples were fine. He looked at the trees, and the trees were fine. He looked at the soil, and the soil was fine.

But when he turned and looked at the farm family, the farm family was not fine.

During this time, Bailey and others were coming to realize that agricultural production does not exist in a vacuum.

"Agriculture is more than a farmer's production techniques on the farm and the quality of the soil," Zimmerman said. "It's about the

people, too."

Seen as addressing "the human element in agriculture," rural sociology and other social sciences became part of agricultural colleges across the nation.

Today, Zimmerman continues to conduct research on the history of rural sociology, and she is making history as the first woman and second youngest person to serve as historian for the Rural Sociological Society.

'Easy access to data'

Zimmerman's Extension work focuses on helping make secondary data accessible and understandable for Kentucky county agents and communities to use in local decision-making.

She developed and manages Kentucky: By The Numbers, which provides access to commonly used coun-

ty-level data for all 120 counties in Kentucky. This resource helps UK Extension personnel understand and apply secondary data for planning, grants, evaluations and more.

Data series examples include population projections, child poverty rates, farm producer demographics and, most recently, secondary data for the Extension State-wide Community Needs Assessment.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic revealed the need for local data on at-risk populations. Zimmerman responded, quickly creating a special data series for counties. Later in the year, as national discussions on inequality began to intensify, she frequently saw race and ethnicity data being shared on the news.

"To help people understand the makeup of

their counties, I wanted to make sure that there was easy access to data on race and ethnicity," Zimmerman said.

Zimmerman hosted a four-part series that ranged from a general overview to data broken down by age group, particularly youth. She also explained how collecting race and ethnicity data has changed throughout history and that "how we count something is not neutral."

"Counting means making decisions—deciding things like who's included in a particular definition and who is not, where do we draw the lines between categories, what do we call the categories...these are all decisions that are made within a social and societal context," she said.

Being a rural sociologist equips Zimmerman to understand and contextualize data, not only comparing Kentucky to the nation but also comparing the present moment to history.

"Interestingly, rural sociologists have long filled this role in colleges of agriculture and Extension, so in a way I'm carrying on that tradition," Zimmerman said.

It's an impactful tradition: Data from her work has been used in community planning throughout the state, from building a new school to securing grant funding for local efforts.

"I hope that something I did had a lasting impact for the state, for the college, for the discipline," Zimmerman said.

Access Zimmerman's Kentucky: By The Numbers at kybtn.ca.uky.edu.

Coal communities receive \$250,000 in grant funding

BY THE MESSENGER STAFF

The Just Transition Fund, the only national philanthropic initiative focused solely on coal community economic transition, has announced its first "Coal Communities Get Ready!" Challenge winners.

Among them are two Kentucky communities, according to a news release. The 12 winners are located in coal communities throughout the United States and will receive a one-year award, valued at \$250,000, that includes grants for capacity support and customized technical assistance to help build readiness to apply for complex federal funds at the end of the grant period.

"Local leaders in coal communities have ambitious ideas to transform their economies. What they often lack are the resources and technical assistance to bring ideas to reality and then help them scale," said Heidi Binko, co-founder and CEO of the Just Transition Fund. "It takes capacity, expertise, and experience to access federal resources. We designed the Coal Communities Get Ready! Challenge to provide this needed capacity and build the pipeline of innovative, community-led projects that have the potential to spark economic revitalization."

The JTF prioritized funding visionary projects with the potential to generate significant economic impact, produce measurable outcomes, and serve as models for other communities in transition. Funded projects will focus on building toward federal investment by connecting rural and urban markets, stimulating entrepreneurship, training workers for careers in the new economy, and planning for transition amid a plant or mine closure. Winning projects span a range of projects including community planning, and sectors including tourism, clean energy, agriculture, manufacturing, and healthcare.

The 2024 Coal Communities Get Ready! Challenge Cohort Winners include:

Backroads of Appalachia (Kentucky): Backroads of Appalachia will lead the revitalization of the former Evarts High School and redevelop existing coal camp cottages into spaces for the creative arts to thrive, transforming it into an arts hub to drive community renewal.

Boom KY (Kentucky): Boom KY is partnering with school districts in Eastern Kentucky to implement technology training and develop Boom GPT, an AI-driven entrepreneurship program to foster tech-based economic growth.

Allamakee Energy District (Iowa): The Allamakee Energy District will pilot a technical assistance program to reduce energy costs for households and businesses, and train workers

to address energy-related infrastructure throughout the county, aiming to boost economic vitality and reduce housing costs and business activities in Allamakee County, Iowa following the closure of Lansing Generating Station.

City of Becker (Minnesota): The City of Becker, Minnesota, is developing a hybrid business accelerator and education training center to support new business growth and innovation as the city transitions with the planned closure of the Sherburne County Generating Station.

Center for Community Growth (Pennsylvania): In partnership with W.H.O.L.E. Unity, the Center for Community Growth is launching "Indiana County Thrives" a community-driven initiative to identify and develop economic and workforce opportunities following the closure of the Homer City Generating Station.

Gillette College Foundation (Wyoming): In partnership with The Gillette College Foundation Office of Economic Transition and the University of Wyoming, The Gillette College Foundation will establish an entrepreneurial ecosystem to nurture entrepreneurship for a more diverse economy through educational programs, meetups and mentoring services, entrepreneur-in-residence (EIR) support, grant funding support, internships, and hackathons, in northeastern

Wyoming amid a declining coal market.

Itasca Economic Development Corporation (Minnesota): The Itasca Economic Development Corporation is leading a planning and development project to engage the community in co-creating a diversified economic future as it prepares for the Boswell Energy Center's closure, supporting development in tourism, manufacturing, innovation, and education.

Keep Your Faith Corporation (West Virginia): Keep Your Faith Corporation is developing a culturally competent workforce model that addresses the unique needs of diverse rural communities through behavioral health services, skill development, and workforce readiness programming, creating a resilient and sustainable workforce for a strengthening economy in West Charleston.

New Roots Community Farm (West Virginia): New Roots Community Farm is redeveloping an abandoned two-acre farmhouse site located on their 82-acre community farm into a convening space called the New River Gorge Agriculture and Culinary Center that will provide small farms and food businesses with access to consistent sales channels and fill a gap in the local food market by sourcing products from regional producers, while also supporting the community's health outcomes and bolstering the growing tourism and outdoor recreation industries in the region.

Plenty Doors Development Corporation (Montana): The Plenty Doors Development Corporation is launching the Apsáalooke Energy Justice Project in partnership with Little Big Horn College and Montana State University to develop an Indigenous-owned utility company and train workers in sustainable energy and hous-

ing development on the Crow Reservation in Montana.

RiverWise (Pennsylvania): RiverWise's Rural Innovation through Solar Empowerment (RISE) Project aims to revolutionize solar energy access in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, by supporting rural energy ventures and developing a Solar Justice40 Toolkit for community use.

Routt County, CO (Colorado): In collaboration with the Northwest Colorado Development Council, Routt County, Colorado will establish a Rural Innovation Center to drive sustainable economic development and entrepreneurial assistance programs in response to coal mine closures in the region.

More than 70 organizations applied to be part of the inaugural cohort, with 12 winners selected.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Weirs Creek Solar, LLC ("Weirs Creek") gives notice that the Kentucky State Board on Electric Generation and Transmission Siting shall convene a public meeting on October 9, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time, at the Hopkins County Fiscal Court Room, 56 North Main Street, Madisonville, Kentucky 42431 for the purpose of receiving public comment on the Application of Weirs Creek for a Certificate of Construction for an approximately 150 megawatt merchant electric solar generating facility in Hopkins and Webster Counties in Case No. 2024-00099.

Weirs Creek Solar, LLC
700 University Boulevard
Juno Beach, Florida 33408
(561) 365-5956



CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

Publication Date	Deadline
Tuesday	Thursday 3 PM
Thursday	Monday 3 PM
Saturday	Wednesday 3 PM

Contact Customer Service at
(270) 824-3300, Option 1 or
classifieds@the-messenger.com
Monday-Friday 7AM-3PM
Holidays advance deadlines by 24 hours



Trooper Nathan Pedigo and Detective Brian Graves

KSP Officers Honored

The Kentucky State Police (KSP) honored 55 troopers and officers who are dedicated to protecting Kentucky's 120 counties with a mission of creating a safer commonwealth for future generations during the 2023 Sworn Awards. The awards presented were for heroic acts of service that occurred in 2023. KSP has more than 1,000 sworn personnel wearing the badge of honor, which is the highest number of troopers the agency has employed since 2017.

In 2023, KSP responded to 407,493 requests for assistance, conducted thousands of wellness checks during dangerous weather conditions, continued the fight against the deadly drug epidemic, obtained justice for victims, ran into unthinkable dangers, assisted local law enforcement agencies as needed and enhanced public and officer safety throughout the commonwealth.

During the ceremony, KSP Commissioner Phillip Burnett Jr. commended the agency's troopers and officers for going above and beyond.

"We recognize the dedication, bravery and extraordinary efforts of our troopers and officers," said KSP Commissioner Phillip Burnett, Jr. "Whether it was a heroic act in the face of danger, an exceptional investigation that led to justice or a moment of compassion that made a lasting impact, each of you have demonstrated what it means to serve with honor."

Those honors included a detective and trooper from the Post 2 area.

* Detective Brian Graves was named the Post 2 Detective of the Year. He is a 9-year veteran of the agency.

* Trooper Nathan Pedigo was named the Post 2 Trooper of the Year. He is a 2-year veteran of the agency.

Providence Woman Dies In Accident

A Providence woman died Thursday, September 19, in a collision with train in Muhlenberg County. According

to a Kentucky State Police report at approximately 4:42 p.m. (CT), the Muhlenberg County Sheriff's Department requested KSP Post 2 to investigate a fatal collision on Ky-70, approximately 8 miles east of Madisonville.

The preliminary investigation reveals that Roxana Allison, 37, of Providence was operating a white Cadillac Escalade traveling westbound on Ky-70. The

Cadillac collided with a P&L train as it crossed over Ky-70 traveling east.

Roxana Allison was pronounced deceased at the scene by the Muhlenberg County Coroner.

The investigation is ongoing by Accident Reconstructionist Patrick Penrod. KSP was assisted on scene by the Muhlenberg Sheriff's Office, EMS, Fire and Rescue, Muhlenberg County Coroner's Office, the highway department, P&L personnel, and Kentucky Department of Transportation.

Subscribe To The Banner (270) 635-2041

WC Sheriff Monthly Activity Report

The Webster County Sheriff's Office has the following activity to report for August, 2024. This data is gathered by individual deputies during the course of their daily duties. This data was compiled and the total activity reported is as follows:

Traffic Stops: 152
Total Citations: 158
DUI: 5
Speed: 24 Seatbelt: 1
Child Restraint: 1
Courtesy Notice: 1

162 Driver Inspections: 391
Complaints: 310
Special Detail: 112
Directed Patrol: 47
Motorist Assists: 4
Criminal Cases: 12
Criminal Arrests: 67
Accidents Investigated: 17
Programs: 5
Warrant Service: 31
Search Warrant Service: 2
Criminal Summons Served: 4
Civil Process Ser-

vice: 68
Security/Surveillance: 8
Intelligence Reports: 2
Vehicle Inspections (Office): 84
Victim Contacts: 280
JC3: 12
E Call Response: 10
E Crisis Response: 5
K9 Deployment: 5
Regular Hours: 1129
Overtime Hours: 126

Sebree Council Meets To Approve Ordinances

The Sebree City Council met in a called session on Thursday, September 19 with Mayor Jeremy Brown presiding. Four council members were present. Council members Jana Forker and Billy Smith did not attend the meeting. Also present were City Attorney Monte Davenport and City Attorney Wil Cox.

In a session that lasted four minutes, the council approved second reading of the 2024-2025 budget and an ordinance granting a solid waste franchise.

The 2024-2025 budget was approved in the amount

of \$3,639,257.46. The budget includes \$1,615,257.46 for the City of Sebree sewer project.

The sanitation franchise ordinance was approved on a 4-0 vote granting that franchise to Impact Waste Services, LLC of Madisonville, Kentucky. The franchise is for a three year period with options for five more three year agreements.

No further business came before the council, and the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting of Sebree City Council will be Monday, October 21, 5:30 P.M.

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Weirs Creek Solar, LLC
700 University Boulevard
Juno Beach, Florida 33408
(561) 365-5956

NO HUNTING Trespassing Crossing or 4-Wheeling on any Joe Peavler Farms Violators Will Be Prosecuted

E & M

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NOTICE TO WEBSTER COUNTY TAXPAYERS

The 2024 real estate taxes are now due and will be payable on October 1, 2024. If you do not receive your bill in the next few days following that date, please contact the Webster County Sheriff's Office at (270) 639-5067. When mailing your payment, please include your copy of the tax bill or put the tax bill number on your check. If you wish a paid receipt returned to you, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The Sheriff's Office is now able to accept debit and credit cards for payment. Charges will be \$1.50 if bill is below \$60.00 and 2.5% charge is bill is above \$60.00.

The following are collection dates for 2024 property tax bills:

- 2% Discount**
October 1, 2024 thru November 1, 2024
- Face Value**
November 2, 2024 thru December 31, 2024
- 5% Penalty**
January 1, 2025 thru January 31, 2025
- 21% Penalty**
February 1, 2025 thru April 15, 2025