

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF EAST)	
KENTUCKY POWER COOPERATIVE, INC.)	
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC)	CASE NO.
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR)	2025-00311
THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 161 kV)	
TRANSMISSION LINE IN PULASKI)	
COUNTY, KENTUCKY AND OTHER)	
GENERAL RELIEF		

VERIFIED APPLICATION

Comes now East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc., (“EKPC” or the Company”) by and through the undersigned counsel, pursuant to KRS 278.020, 807 KAR 5:001, 807 KAR 5:120 and other applicable law and hereby tenders its Application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission (“Commission”) requesting approval for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPCN”) to construct a 161 kV transmission line in Pulaski County, Kentucky. In support of the Application, EKPC respectfully states as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. EKPC is a not-for-profit, rural electric cooperative corporation established under KRS Chapter 279 with its headquarters in Winchester, Kentucky. Pursuant to various agreements, EKPC provides electric generation capacity and electric energy to its sixteen (16) Owner-Member Cooperatives (“owner-members”), which in turn serve over 570,000 Kentucky homes, farms and commercial and industrial establishments in eighty-nine (89) Kentucky counties. EKPC’s Board stated its strategic objective is to maintain a generation fleet that prudently diversifies its fuel

sources while maximizing its capital investments and minimizing stranded assets. EKPC is a “utility” as that term is defined in KRS 278.010(3)(a) and a “generation and transmission cooperative” as that term is defined in KRS 278.010(9).

2. In total, EKPC owns and operates approximately 2,963 MW of net summer generating capacity and 3,265 MW of net winter generating capacity. EKPC owns and operates coal-fired generation at the John S. Cooper Station in Pulaski County, Kentucky (341 MW) and the Hugh L. Spurlock Station (1,346 MW) in Mason County, Kentucky. EKPC also owns and operates natural gas-fired generation at the J. K. Smith Station in Clark County, Kentucky (753 MW (summer)/989 MW (winter)) and the Bluegrass Generating Station in Oldham County, Kentucky (501 MW (summer)/567 MW (winter)), landfill gas-to-energy facilities in Boone County, Greenup County, Hardin County, Pendleton County and Barren County (13.8 MW total), a Community Solar facility (8.5 MW) in Clark County, Kentucky and Cooperative Solar Farm Four – Star Hill Farm (0.5 MW) in Marion County, Kentucky. Finally, EKPC purchases hydropower from the Southeastern Power Administration at Laurel Dam in Laurel County, Kentucky (70 MW), and the Cumberland River system of dams in Kentucky and Tennessee (100 MW). EKPC also has 200 MWs of interruptible load and approximately 28 MWs in peak reduction mechanisms. EKPC’s record peak demand of 3,754 MW occurred on January 17, 2024.

3. EKPC owns 2,994 circuit miles of high voltage transmission lines in various voltages, mainly 69kV and greater. EKPC also owns the substations necessary to support this transmission line infrastructure. Currently, EKPC has seventy-seven (77) free-flowing interconnections with its neighboring utilities. EKPC’s transmission system is operated by PJM Interconnection, LLC (“PJM”), of which EKPC has been a fully integrated member since June 1, 2013. PJM is a regional electric grid and market operator with operational control of over 180,000

MW of regional electric generation through all, or parts of, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. It operates the largest capacity and energy market in North America.

II. FILING REQUIREMENTS

4. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 14(1), EKPC's business address is 4775 Lexington Road, Winchester, Kentucky 40391 and its mailing address is Post Office Box 707, Winchester, Kentucky 40392-0707. EKPC's email address is: psc@ekpc.coop. EKPC's telephone number is 859-744-4812 and its fax number is 859-744-6008. EKPC requests that the following individuals be included on the service list:

Gregory H. Cecil, EKPC's Director of Regulatory and Compliance Services:

Greg.cecil@ekpc.coop

L. Allyson Honaker, Counsel for EKPC:

allyson@hloky.com

Heather S. Temple, Counsel for EKPC

heather@hloky.com

Meredith L. Cave, Counsel for EKPC

meredith@hloky.com

5. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 14(2), EKPC is a Kentucky corporation, in good standing, and was incorporated on July 9, 1941. The certificate of good standing is attached as Exhibit 1.

6. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 15(2)(a), the facts relied upon to show that the proposed construction is required by public convenience and necessity are contained in this

Application and Exhibits, in particular the Direct Testimony of Darrin Adams attached as Exhibit 2.

7. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 15(2)(b), EKPC has listed in Exhibit 3 the Direct Testimony of Lucas Spencer, Attachment LS-6 the necessary franchises or permits that will be necessary for construction of the proposed transmission line. EKPC will file copies of each of the franchises or permits when they are obtained from the proper authorities.

8. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 15(2)(c), the project will include a new ~~5.25-mile~~ **4.54-mile** 161 kV double-circuit electric transmission line between EKPC's Cooper Station and the Louisville Gas & Electric and Kentucky Utilities Co. ("LG&E/KU") Alcalde Substation located southeast of Somerset, Kentucky. Both circuits of the line will connect at a new 161 kV substation at Cooper Station that will be constructed for integration of the new Cooper Combined-Cycle Gas Turbine ("CCGT") generation facility into the electric transmission system which was recently approved in Case No. 2024-00370.¹ Both circuits will terminate on the other end at the existing LG&E/KU Alcalde 345-161 kV Substation. A more detailed description of the proposed location, route, or routes of the proposed construction and rebuild is contained in the Direct Testimony of Lucas Spencer contained in Exhibit 3 to this Application.

9. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 15(2)(c), a description of the manner in which the new construction will be constructed including the proposed location and route, and the names of all public utilities, corporations, or persons with whom the proposed construction or extension is likely to compete is included in the Direct Testimonies of Mr. Adams and Mr. Spencer, contained in Exhibits 2 and 3 to this Application.

¹ *Electronic Application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. for 1) Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a New Generation Resource; 2) for a Site Compatibility Certificate Relating to the Same; 3) Approval of Demand Side Management Tariffs; and 4) Other General Relief*, Case No. 2024-00370, July 30, 2025 Order (Ky. PSC. July 30, 2025).

10. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 15(2)(e), EKPC plans to initially finance the proposed rebuild and construction with general funds and later to refinance with additional items into a larger refinancing package at a later date. For additional information on the financing of the project, please see the Direct Testimony of Thomas J. Stachnik attached at Exhibit 4.

11. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 15(2)(f), EKPC's estimated annual cost of operation after the proposed facilities are placed into service is \$1,108,966.

12. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:120, Section 1, EKPC filed its Notice of Intent to file this Application on September 19, 2025. A copy of the Notice of Intent is attached as Exhibit 5 to this Application.

13. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:120 Section 2(2)(a), three maps of suitable scale, no less than one-inch equals 1,000 feet for the proposed project are attached to Mr. Spencer's Direct Testimony Exhibit 3, Attachment LS-4 to this Application. The map shows the location of the proposed transmission line centerline and right of way, and boundaries of each property crossed by the transmission line right of way, based upon the records of the Pulaski County Property Valuation Administrator ("PVA").

14. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:120 Section 2(2)(b), Mr. Spencer's Direct Testimony Exhibit 3, Attachment LS-2 includes sketches of the proposed typical transmission line support structures for the project.

15. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:120 Section 2(2)(c), Mr. Spencer's Direct Testimony Exhibit 3, Attachment LS-5 includes an additional map that shows the alternative routes that were considered by EKPC.

16. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:120 Section 2(4), EKPC has given notice by mailing to each property owner over whose property the transmission line is proposed to cross. The notices

were mailed via first-class mail to the addresses listed by the Pulaski County PVA records on October 8, 2025.² The verification of Nick Comer, External Affairs Manager for EKPC is attached to the Application as Exhibit 6, stating he was responsible for mailing the required notices. Attached to his verification is a copy of the notice that was mailed and contained all of the required information by 807 KAR 5:120 Section 15(3). Additionally, included in Exhibit 6, EKPC has also attached a list of the names and addresses of the property owners to whom the notice was sent.

17. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:120 Section 2(6), EKPC also published a notice of intent to construct the transmission line on October 10, 2025 in *The Commonwealth Journal*, which is a newspaper of general circulation in Pulaski County, Kentucky. This notice included all of the necessary information contained in 807 KAR 5:120 Section 2(5), including a map showing the proposed route, a statement of the right to request a local public hearing, and a statement that interested persons have the right to request to intervene. EKPC is attaching a copy of the newspaper notice as Exhibit 7 to the Application.

18. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:120 Section 2(7), the project does not involve sufficient capital outlay to materially affect the existing financial condition of EKPC. Please see the Direct Testimony of Thomas J. Stachnik provided at Exhibit 4 to this Application for more information regarding the financing of this project.

19. Pursuant to KRS 322.340, the engineering plans, specifications, drawings and reports for the proposed construction are signed, sealed, and dated by an engineer registered in Kentucky.

² The letter to the landowners provided in Exhibit 7 contains the date of mailing as October 8, 2022. EKPC notes the letters to the landowners were mailed on October 8, 2025. This was a typographical error.

REQUEST FOR CPCN

20. EKPC is requesting the Commission to grant a CPCN for a project to construct approximately ~~5.25~~ 4.54 miles of new double circuit 161-kV electric transmission line in Pulaski County. This project will provide electric transmission capacity to reliably deliver electricity from EKPC's planned expansion of Cooper Station in Somerset. EKPC plans to add new 745-MW generating unit at the power plant. These power plant and transmission line projects will enhance reliability of the electric transmission grid in southern Kentucky.

21. EKPC is also requesting the Commission to grant it the authority to move the location of the line up to 50 feet on either side of the centerline shown on the map attached to Mr. Spencer's Testimony in Exhibit 3, Attachment LS-4, to account for any unexpected conditions that may arise during the construction of the 161 kV transmission line.

22. EKPC states that the proposed transmission line and the facilities indicated above are necessary to provide safe and reliable service to the service area. The need for the transmission line and facilities is described in more detail in the Direct Testimony of Darrin Adams, attached at Exhibit 2.

23. EKPC reviewed the proposed routes and believes the process has selected the route that will have the least impact on the surrounding area and property owners. The 161 kV line and related investments are needed in order to provide greater capacity and reliability in the service area. The parameters of the project were also carefully calibrated to avoid wasteful duplication of investment and the unnecessary cluttering of landscape with utility infrastructure. In order to evaluate the routes thoroughly, EKPC engaged the experts at NV5 Geospatial to conduct a siting study to determine the best route for the project. This siting report is attached as Exhibit 8, and shows not only the chosen route, but also the alternative routes that were considered. A complete

description of the process undertaken by EKPC with regards to the siting report is contained in Mr. Spencer's Direct Testimony in Exhibit 3.

WHEREFORE, EKPC respectfully requests the Commission to grant:

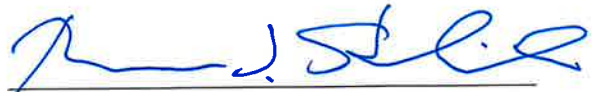
- (1) a CPCN for the construction of the 161 kV transmission line from Cooper Station to the Alcalde Substation;
- (2) authority to move the location of the line fifty (50) feet on either side of the centerline as shown in the maps attached in Exhibit 3, Attachment LS-4 to account for any unexpected conditions that may arise during the construction of the 161 kV transmission lines; and
- (3) all other relief to which EKPC may be entitled.

This 7th day of November 2025.

VERIFICATION

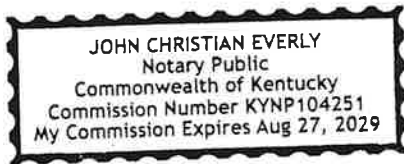
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)
)
COUNTY OF CLARK)

Comes now Thomas J. Stachnik, Vice President and Treasurer of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc., and, after being duly sworn, does hereby verify, swear and affirm that the averments set forth in the foregoing Application are true and correct based upon my personal knowledge and belief, formed after reasonable inquiry, as of this 6th day of November, 2025.



Thomas J. Stachnik, Vice President and
Treasurer
East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc.

The foregoing Verification was verified, sworn to and affirmed before me, by Thomas J. Stachnik, Vice President and Treasurer of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. on this the 6th day of November, 2025.



Notary Public

Commission Expires: Aug. 27, 2029

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather S. Temple

L. Allyson Honaker

Heather S. Temple

Meredith L. Cave

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Counsel for East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc.

EXHIBIT LIST

EXHIBIT NO.	TITLE	WITNESS
1	CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING	JACOB WATSON
2	DIRECT TESTIMONY	DARRIN ADAMS
3	DIRECT TESTIMONY	LUCAS SPENCER
4	DIRECT TESTIMONY	THOMAS J. STACHNIK
5	NOTICE OF INTENT	JACOB WATSON
6	VERIFICATION – PROPERTY OWNER NOTICE MAILING – NOTICE – LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS	NICK COMER
7	NEWSPAPER NOTICE AND AFFIDAVIT	NICK COMER
8	SITING REPORT	LUCAS SPENCER