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AUG 31 2020

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

August 26, 2020

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

Re: Broadband in Western Kentucky **CASE # 2020-00215**

Commissioners,

I am writing to show my support of Kenergy's broadband deployment project. I want regulated electric cooperatives to be able to provide high-speed broadband services to my community, just as municipals and TVA cooperatives do today. Our community has limited, if any, availability to reliable, high-speed internet. This critical infrastructure is essential to business, healthcare, education and quality of life. In fact, it is the only path to rural economic survival.

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.

I am 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 my community and transform western Kentucky. Failure to do so will have a lasting negative impact!

Sincerely,

Raymond A. Hagerman  
President  
38 West Arch St.  
Madisonville KY 42431  
270-875-6185

