



*Crittenden County Judge-Executive*  
*Perry A. Newcom*



May 20, 2022

Kentucky Public Service Commission  
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PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Chairman Chandler,

Please accept this letter on my behalf requesting the Kentucky Public Service Commission to issue a favorable Order in regard to Case # 2021-00365 *In the Matter of: Electronic Application of Kenergy Corp. for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Construction of a High-Speed Fiber Network, and for Approval of the Leasing of the Network's Excess Capacity to an Affiliate to be Engaged in the Provision of Broadband Service to Unserved and Underserved Households and Businesses within the fourteen county service area of rural Western Kentucky served by Kenergy Corp.*

Not only will Kenergy future-proof their system by having the ability to integrate a fiber network with their SmartGrid system, but it will also allow the opportunity for thousands of western Kentucky citizens to have access to high-speed affordable broadband internet service.

Access to high-speed affordable broadband internet service is not a luxury. It is a necessity that many rural Kentuckians lack, especially in Crittenden County, and the many other counties that will benefit from the approval of the PSC to proceed as necessary. Allowing Kenergy to obtain the favorable funds needed to economically build out the fiber network will enable our citizens to have the broadband access they so desperately need and deserve. Currently I can provide examples of individuals that are having to pay over \$600.00 per month to have adequate high speed broadband service to their homes and businesses. Broadband is essential to the livelihood of our communities and the citizens that live and work in the Kenergy Corp. service area.

I understand the commission has many items on its docket, however I consider this case critical to the advancement of the 14-county area which will be served through this authorization to proceed. Therefore, I now ask for an Order to be made immediately regarding this matter. The immediate order will ensure this project can proceed without further undue delays in providing service to those in critical need. I thank you for the consideration, and thank you in advance for your order of approval because I know you would not take action to prohibit accessibility to those in need.

Respectfully Submitted,

Crittenden County Judge Executive