

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PSC Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment - PSC Case No. 2024-00085 Jackson Purchase Energy Corporation
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I would like to comment on the proposed rate increase put forward by Jackson Purchase Energy Corporation, with the hearing scheduled for December 16, 2024, PSC Case No. 2024-00085. I cannot comment on the merits of the proposed rate increase based on strictly financial considerations since I have not audited their current and historical financial records. My comment is based on more recent changes to the broader economic circumstances that have occurred since their initial filing which would significantly change their need for the increased rates.

The October 2024 edition of *Kentucky Living*, published by the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives (KAEC), included a lengthy article titled **Electric Election '24** which compared the positions of the two major candidates running for president. This article stated, "Trump says a top priority for his administration will be to cut the cost of energy in half within the first 12 months of taking office: 'That includes heating, air conditioning, electricity, and gasoline'." Obviously, the magazine is free to print their position on almost anything because of the freedom of the press guaranteed by the first amendment to the constitution. The veteran journalist who authored that article would not have printed this statement unless he and the staff of *Kentucky Living* fully expected this 50% reduction of electric rates to become effective if Trump won re-election and became president in 2025. Now that Donald Trump will be sworn into office slightly more than a month after the rate hearing, the need for the proposed rate increase should no longer exist since the KAEC has printed that we will see a 50% rate reduction during 2025. Perhaps the 50% was campaign hyperbole, but even half that would still reduce the costs of Jackson Purchase Energy far beyond their current proposed increase in rates. I am sure *Kentucky Living* would not provide misinformation on such an important issue to its many cooperative members across the state, so the statewide network of electric cooperatives are likely already planning for this substantial rate reduction in the coming months. It seems a wasted effort, besides poor public relations, to whipsaw the Jackson Purchase Energy Cooperative members with a major rate increase in January 2025, only to later go through the exercises of providing refunds once the much larger rate reductions begin to come into effect some months afterwards.

Thanks for the opportunity to express my concerns about the implementation of a redundant rate increase just prior to upcoming significant rate reductions. I will be looking forward to seeing the outcome of this PSC rate deliberation.

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