

From: [PSC Public Comment](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00115
Date: Monday, December 9, 2024 9:21:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00115

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Power Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2024-00115, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at [View Case Filings for: 2024-00115 \(ky.gov\)](#).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Jimmy Owsley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2024 11:34 AM
To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>
Subject: Public Comment in Case #2024-00115

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners

Case #2024-00115 KY Power DSM Case

Hello and thank you for giving this time to share. My name is Jimmy Owsley, and I live in Prestonsburg. I've worked for Christian Appalachian Project for 9 years & Mountain Association for a little over 2 years.

As someone who has done a LOT of volunteer home repair serving wonderful, kind elderly and disabled folks in the Floyd/Martin/Johnson area over the years, I can say that the folks who are paying the highest heating bills are the ones LEAST likely to be able to afford it (\$500 monthly bills for example). I've also served, cared for, and known folks who spend half their check on a heating bill. It's money that's spent on heat that just disappates through gaps & poor insulation. And paying that \$500 bill becomes a burden for our local churches and nonprofits who become weighed down. And I know from personal experience that our home repair organizations just can't fix the homes fast enough.

These are often folks who have worked hard to mine coal and provide energy for the rest of the country. Who have worked hard to provide for their families and communities. But they've been left behind by an economy that considers elderly and disabled folks in Eastern Kentucky to be expendable.

And so I see a really big need for weatherization, along with support for current programs (that I've participated in) who are daunted by the need. We're at least 2000 housing units short just in Floyd County. And so folks live in housing that's inadequate and in disrepair. As Scott McReynolds, Director of HDA has shared: "My first 10 years here I lived in substandard housing, not because I couldn't afford anything better, but because that's what I could find."

And I know that the utility doesn't consider this their responsibility. They exist to make a profit. They need to make a profit. But they're also a utility that exists here to serve the public. And it's not right to ask the least able, the least well-off, to shoulder the greatest burden.

If there is an equal financial tradeoff between building a new power plant (on one hand) and reducing the demand for energy (on the other), I will take reducing the demand and lowering bills for hardworking mountain folks every time.

Sincerely,
Jimmy Owsley

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