To:

Subject: RE: Case No. 2024-000129

Date: Monday, October 28, 2024 9:11:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Wonderley

Sent: Saturday, October 26, 2024 8:42 PM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: Case No. 2024-000129



Public Comment attached

Thank you,

Patricia Wonderley

Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

October 26, 2024 Comment on East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) Proposal

EKPC proposes a 387-acre utility scale solar development in the Agricultural-Rural Zone on Winchester Road, Fayette County.

Please deny the Proposal because:

- 1. Solar development is neither agricultural nor rural use for the land as zoned.
- 2. Solar panels and related development will negatively impact the area's soil and geography.
- 3. The solar panels will be an <u>eyesore</u>, destroying the rolling farmland vista of the Bluegrass region.

Further:

- Lexington-Fayette County has a unique and rare advantage. Its combination of limestone
 at a relatively low elevation together with abundant rainfall produces irreplaceable rich
 soil and rolling countryside. Lexington-Fayette County has special tourism, rural, farm
 and horse industries that exist nowhere else in the United States. Thousands of people
 depend on the preservation of the Bluegrass region for their livelihoods.
- Once the Bluegrass region is developed, the land is lost forever, together with its special qualities.

Any proposed development should have as its <u>major goal</u> the preservation and conservation of existing rural and agricultural use. Our responsibility is its stewardship of the land for our citizens and future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Wonderley
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

To:

 Subject:
 RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129

 Date:
 Monday, October 28, 2024 9:10:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129</u> (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: ALLIE SECOR

Sent: Saturday, October 26, 2024 8:12 AM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov> **Subject:** Public Comment in Case #2024-00129



Dear Commissioners

EKPC Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Case #2024-00129

I am in favor an encouraged by the EKPC adding more solar capacity. I would, however, encourage them to lean more toward rooftop solar and placement of panels on already disturbed land, such as parking lots, rather than farmland.

Sincerely,
ALLIE SECOR

To: Subject:

RE: Case No. 2024-000129.

Date: Monday, October 28, 2024 9:10:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Tracy Spencer

Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 3:14 PM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: Case No. 2024-000129.



J Tracy Spencer

Phone

Lexington, KY 40502

Dear Sir:

I oppose moving forward with the solar farm as currently proposed by East Kentucky Power. Any solar farm should not be located in limited prime bluegrass soils, but should instead be located in marginal land such as reclaimed strip minds, etc. Also it is not clear what happens to the panels that may become obsolete in as little as five years.

To: Subject:

RE: Case # 2024-00129

Date:

Monday, October 28, 2024 9:10:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Joshua Higgins

Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 3:06 PM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: Case # 2024-00129



Dear Sir / Ma'am:

I am not opposed to solar farms, but prime farmland is an inappropriate location for them. Prime farm land should be protected for the production of crops and animals. There are plenty of brownfields, abandoned industrial sites, reclaimed surface coal mines, and large flat roof-tops (think shopping malls and strip malls) across the state which make better places for solar "farms." Most of these types of sites are probably closer to existing electrical infrastructure anyway.

Unless Federal money is used in any way on this project, the proposed action by EKPC probably doesn't fall under the Farmland Protection Policy Act, but please pay attention to the basic intent of this law: avoid or minimize impacts regarding the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses.

Thank you, Joshua J. Higgins

Manchester, KY 40962

To:

 Subject:
 RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129

 Date:
 Monday, October 28, 2024 9:09:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129</u> (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: "I live in Cent. KY & I'm interested in this since I'm on a fixed. I Income. Anything that reduces

my electric bill has my suppor Betty"

Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 11:48 AM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov> **Subject:** Public Comment in Case #2024-00129



Dear Commissioners

EKPC Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Case #2024-00129

I live on a fixed income and anything that would reduce my electric bill is of interest to me.

Sincerely,

I live in Cent. KY & I'm interested in this since I'm on a fixed. I Income. Anything that reduces my electric bill has my suppor Betty

To:

Subject: RE: Case No. 2024-000129.

Date: Monday, October 28, 2024 9:09:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129</u> (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Debbie Aminoff

Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 9:14 AM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: Case No. 2024-000129.



My understanding is that you are going to be considering a proposal from the East Kentucky Power Cooperative to develop a solar development site in an Agricultural-Rural zone.

I will note that we do not have solar panels on our house roor, because our house is surrounded by mature trees which obviate the need for air conditioning use in the summer, and which block sufficient sunlight getting through to make solar panels cost effective. That said, I am a proponent of solar energy, but not at the expense of our agricultural-rural zone and not to the detriment of our prime soils.

I urge you to look at alternatives for siting of this project so as to preserve land that makes Fayette County unique.

Thank you for your consideration.

Deborah Aminoff

. Lexington, KY 40505

To:

RE: Case No. 2024-000129.

Subject: F

Monday, October 28, 2024 9:08:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at View Case Filings for: 2024-00129 (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Rory Kahly

Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 9:11 AM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: Case No. 2024-000129.



{Full Name} Rory Kahly
{Phone Number}
{Address}

Renewable over fossil fuels.

Please have a second use on the land as well: sheep, goats, herbs, potatoes, hops, etc....

To:

Subject: RE: Public Comments for Case: 2024-00129 - East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc.

Date: Monday, October 28, 2024 9:08:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129</u> (kv.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: KY Public Service Commission Public Comments <psc.comment@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 8:18 AM

To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: Public Comments for Case: 2024-00129 - East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc.

Public Comments for Case 2024-00129 submitted by

on Friday, October

25, 2024 at 8:18 AM

Name: Misty Fenech

Address:

City: LEXINGTON

State: KY

Zip Code: 40508

Phone number where you can be reached:

Home phone:

Comments: I strongly urge the rejection of the proposed 387-acre utility-scale solar development by East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) in Fayette County's Agricultural-Rural zone. This project not only fails to align with our local priorities but also undermines the long-term sustainability of our rural lands, which have significant economic and agricultural value. While I am supportive of renewable energy development, particularly solar on rooftops, brownfield sites, industrial areas, and already built environments, I am not supportive of this development on our prime agricultural land. Limited Local Benefits EKPC's service area extends well beyond Fayette County, with only 2% of EKPC's customers residing here. It is clear that the primary benefits of this development will be felt outside our community, while our residents bear the cost of lost farmland and altered rural landscapes. Furthermore, EKPC's own estimates suggest the creation of only 2-3 full-time jobs over a 40-year span. This negligible job creation offers little economic boost to our local economy. Prime Farmland at Risk The proposed project site consists overwhelmingly of prime farmland — 98% of the land designated as prime soils or of statewide importance. These soils are not only highly valuable for agricultural production but are also irreplaceable resources. The recent unanimous

recommendation by the Lexington-Fayette County Planning Commission to prohibit utility-scale solar development in our agricultural zones underscores the importance of preserving this land for food and fiber production. The potential billion-dollar economic impact of agriculture in our region further justifies protecting these rural areas for current and future generations. Misalignment with Comprehensive Planning Our Comprehensive Plan highlights the need to prioritize and protect our rural lands, ensuring that they remain available for agriculture and sustainable land uses that align with our community's character and economy. Utility-scale solar development, with its large physical footprint and minimal local benefit, is incompatible with these long-standing priorities. In light of these factors, I respectfully urge decision-makers to prioritize policies that preserve our agricultural land and support locally beneficial, sustainable energy solutions that respect the character and needs of Fayette County residents.

To: Subject: Date:

RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129 Monday, October 28, 2024 9:07:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129</u> (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Sandra Davis

Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2024 9:22 PM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov> **Subject:** Public Comment in Case #2024-00129



Dear Commissioners

EKPC Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Case #2024-00129

Please help us keep some of the oil and coal in the ground for future generations. We will need it when things blow up. For now, we have plenty of sunshine, wind, and water. Let's use solar for energy in every practical way. It's cleaner, simpler, and the source is free to everyone. Let's leave something to future generations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Sandra Davis

To:

 Subject:
 RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129

 Date:
 Monday, October 28, 2024 9:03:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129</u> (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: James Smith

Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2024 3:00 PM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov> **Subject:** Public Comment in Case #2024-00129



Dear Commissioners

EKPC Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Case #2024-00129. I urge your approval for East Kentucky Power Cooperative is planning to build two new solar farms, one in Fayette County next to their current solar farm and one in Marion County.

Sincerely, James Smith

To: Subject: Date:

RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129 Monday, October 28, 2024 9:03:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129 (kv.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Danica Novgorodoff

Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 8:54 PM **To:** PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov> **Subject:** Public Comment in Case #2024-00129



Dear Commissioners

EKPC Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Case #2024-00129

Having non-polluting, renewable energy sources makes our energy grid more reliable and resilient in the face of storms and other extreme weather events. Renewable energy such as solar and wind is not impacted by extreme low temperatures the way other sources are.

Solar power is also less expensive than new fossil fuel infrastructure and will help lower customer's energy bills. Building these new facilities should help lower energy costs for customers here in Kentucky.

Sincerely, Danica Novgorodoff

To:

 Subject:
 RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129

 Date:
 Monday, October 28, 2024 9:02:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129</u> (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Colin Goggin

Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 6:40 PM
To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>
Subject: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129



Dear Commissioners

EKPC Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Case #2024-00129

I urge you to support these solar projects. We are served by some of the dirtiest power in the entire nation and are long overdue to get started on the transition to cleaner and cheaper forms of electricity. The projects are well suited to grid interconnection and would serve to overwhelming public interest in less cleaner energy generation.

Sincerely, Colin Goggin

To:

 Subject:
 RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129

 Date:
 Monday, October 28, 2024 9:02:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129 (kv.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Joetta Prost

Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 2:13 PM **To:** PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov> **Subject:** Public Comment in Case #2024-00129



Dear Commissioners

EKPC Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Case #2024-00129

I am an Owen Coop customer and I urge you to approve Case #2024-00129.

In EKPC's Next Integrated Resource Plan We Want to See More Energy Efficiency, Demand-Side Management, Battery Storage, Distributed Generation (Rooftop Solar), and new technology including Virtual Power Plants.

Rooftop solar is an important utility resource that helps us meet our current and future electricity needs and climate commitments. Utilities should do everything they can to encourage rooftop solar through continuing to offer strong net metering programs indefinitely.

Distributed resources, like rooftop solar help us meet our energy needs while reducing the impact of large-scale solar on prime farmland.

Net metering of rooftop solar is a very low cost resource for utilities and their customers. At a time

of increasing demand and concerns about grid reliability and the transmission system, customers who are willing to invest their own capital into solar generators on their own properties should be encouraged to do so.

thank you!

Sincerely, Joetta Prost

To:

 Subject:
 RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129

 Date:
 Monday, October 28, 2024 9:01:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129 (kv.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Catherine Clement

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 12:36 PM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov> **Subject:** Public Comment in Case #2024-00129



Dear Commissioners

EKPC Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Case #2024-00129

I am writing in support of EKPC's proposed new solar farms. Although I do not live in the territory of an EKPC cooperative utility, any investment in clean energy is in the public interest in general. Utility scale solar is essential to reducing fossil fuel pollutants that seriously endanger our health and to reducing green house gasses that feed our climate crisis. Fossil fuel emissions are costly in terms of health, livelihoods, environment, and dollars. Utility scale solar is also essential to making our energy system more resilient in the face of extreme weather events that are now hitting Kentucky regularly with costly and heart breaking impacts. Utility scale is certainly not the only answer; we also need widespread support for distributed, roof top solar, and meaningful demand side manage programs that reduce energy use and save customers money. EKPC's solar farms must be done right, with community input, proper siting, and proper decommissioning plans. But this is possible, and with those protections in place, these farms should be supported. Given the federal government funding EKPC is receiving, these projects will provide low cost energy to EKPC members. Please approve these solar farms.

Sincerely, Catherine Clement

To:

 Subject:
 RE: Public Comment in Case #2024-00129

 Date:
 Monday, October 28, 2024 9:01:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00129

Thank you for your comments on the application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 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, 2024-00129, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00129 (kv.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Cara Cooper

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 12:00 PM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov> **Subject:** Public Comment in Case #2024-00129



Dear Commissioners

EKPC Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Case #2024-00129

We need our utilities to take an all of the above approach in transitioning to truly clean and renewable energy sources. That means investing in energy efficiency and demand-side management in a meaningful way, supporting rooftop solar and strong net metering programs, AND building utility-scale solar.

I support EKPC in building these two new solar farms as a low-cost option for bringing new electricity onto the grid. With the use of federal New ERA funds these projects will be affordable for customers and require that EKPC use a robust community engagement process to ensure the projects are done in a responsible and sustainable manner which maintains the integrity of the land post-decommissioning.

As EKPC plans for the future, we must ensure that they consider all available options and technology to lessen the need for future generation, keep costs affordable for customers, and make the grid more resilient and reliable through energy efficiency, DSM, virtual powerplants, rooftop solar, and

storage. I look forward to seeing their next integrated resource plan take this planning process seriously.

Sincerely, Cara Cooper *L. Allyson Honaker Honaker Law Office, PLLC 1795 Alysheba Way Suite 1203 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40509 *Honorable Matthew R Malone Attorney at Law Hurt, Deckard & May The Equus Building 127 West Main Street Lexington, KENTUCKY 40507

*Aaron D Reedy Hurt, Deckard & May The Equus Building 127 West Main Street Lexington, KENTUCKY 40507

*East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 4775 Lexington Road P. O. Box 707 Winchester, KY 40392-0707

*Brittany H. Koenig Honaker Law Office, PLLC 1795 Alysheba Way Suite 1203 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40509

*Chris Adams
East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc.
4775 Lexington Road
P. O. Box 707
Winchester, KY 40392-0707

*Honorable David J. Barberie Managing Attorney Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Department Of Law 200 East Main Street Lexington, KENTUCKY 40507

*Dennis G Howard II Howard Law PLLC 740 Emmett Creek Lane Lexington, KENTUCKY 40515

*Heather Temple Honaker Law Office, PLLC 1795 Alysheba Way Suite 1203 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40509