

**From:** [PSC Public Comment](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Comment on Case # 2024-00326  
**Date:** Thursday, May 15, 2025 8:31:00 AM

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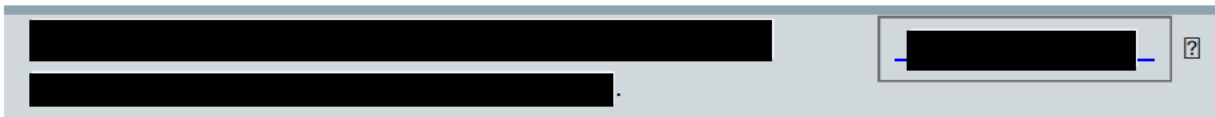
Case No. 2024-00326

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company, Louisville Gas and Electric 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, 2024-00326, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at [View Case Filings for: 2024-00326 \(ky.gov\)](#).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 14, 2025 4:03 PM  
**To:** PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>  
**Subject:** Comment on Case # 2024-00326



Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

When LGE&E-KU plans for future electricity needs, they should be proposing solutions that prioritize the wellbeing of customers instead of their own corporate interests. [REDACTED] LG&E/KU customers like me have struggled with paying our energy bills while our health is negatively affected by the air pollution from fossil fuel power plants.

Please encourage LG&E-KU to invest in energy efficiency and local distributed energy resources, like rooftop solar and advanced batteries. These options are cheaper in the long run and will help lower the overall demand for energy while helping keep energy affordable for us Kentuckians.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Brian Schanding  
[REDACTED] Lexington, KY 40503

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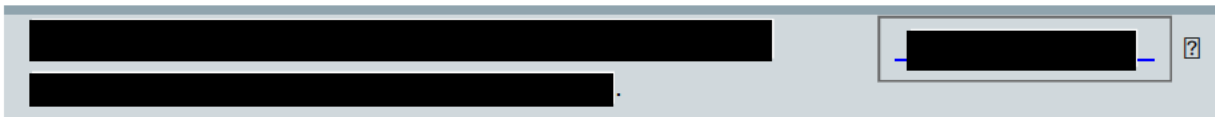
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 14, 2025 10:43 AM  
**To:** PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>  
**Subject:** Comment on Case # 2024-00326



Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

When LGE&E-KU plans for future electricity needs, they should be proposing solutions that prioritize the wellbeing of customers instead of their own corporate interests. [REDACTED] LG&E/KU customers like me have struggled with paying our energy bills while our health is negatively affected by the air pollution from fossil fuel power plants.

Please encourage LG&E-KU to invest in energy efficiency and local distributed energy resources, like rooftop solar and advanced batteries. These options are cheaper in the long run and will help lower the overall demand for energy while helping keep energy affordable for us Kentuckians.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Dawn Smith

[REDACTED] Crab Orchard, KY 40419-8256  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [PSC Public Comment](#)  
**To:** [Kentuckians ForEnergyDemocracy](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Public Comment Case #2004-00326  
**Date:** Thursday, May 15, 2025 8:30:00 AM

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Case No. 2024-00326

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company, Louisville Gas and Electric 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, 2024-00326, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at [View Case Filings for: 2024-00326 \(ky.gov\)](#).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

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**From:** Kentuckians ForEnergyDemocracy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2025 1:49 PM  
**To:** PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment Case #2004-00326

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please see the attached comment on behalf of Kentuckians for Energy Democracy.

Thank you,  
Cara Cooper  
K4ED, Coordinator



# KENTUCKIANS for Energy Democracy

## Public Comment: Case #2024-00326

Ratepayers rely on our utilities to take the integrated resources plan process seriously. That means they must do their due diligence to make the best decisions, using the most realistic scenarios, and utilizing all resources available to them to keep energy affordable and meet future needs in the most responsible way possible. When they fail to do this, we, the ratepayers, are stuck paying for their bad decisions. Unfortunately, we are not confident that this IRP has met that standard.

[Ninety six percent of new US power capacity installed in 2024 was carbon-free, and only 4% was fossil gas.](#)<sup>1</sup> This is driven by economics, as [Solar PV and wind are now the cheapest electricity sources in most markets.](#)<sup>2</sup> So why are the Companies moving in the opposite direction – and going against their stated [goals and policy principles](#)<sup>3</sup> – by proposing more risky 40-year investments in natural gas generation?

We've been down this road before and we continue to pay a heavy price. Coal plants running at financial losses are [costing US communities billions in health-related expenses.](#)<sup>4</sup> The RMI health impacts dashboard estimates that [Kentuckians have paid nearly \\$14 billion in health effects since 2015 alone](#)<sup>5</sup> – in addition to paying extra for coal plants that were not cost-effective! And, according to the [2025 ACEEE Energy Efficient Scorecard](#)<sup>6</sup>, Kentucky now ranks 43rd in the US for energy efficiency - dropping 5 spots since last year.

There are better ways to meet our capacity needs, and they are cheaper than what the companies are proposing. Accelerated investments in energy efficiency and local distributed energy resources, like rooftop solar and advanced batteries, would be cheaper and bring

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1. McCarthy, Dan. *Chart: 96 percent of new US power capacity was carbon-free in 2024*. Canary Media. Jan 10 2025. <https://www.canarymedia.com/articles/clean-energy/chart-96-percent-of-new-us-power-capacity-was-carbon-free-in-2024>
  2. *World Energy Outlook 2024*. International Energy Agency. <https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/140a0470-5b90-4922-a0e9-838b3ac6918c/WorldEnergyOutlook2024.pdf>
  3. *PPL Climate Policy Principles*. PPL. [https://www.pplweb.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/PPL\\_Climate-Policy-Principles.pdf](https://www.pplweb.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/PPL_Climate-Policy-Principles.pdf)
  4. Tosado, G, et al. *How Uneconomic Coal Plants Hurt our Health — and Drive Up Healthcare Costs*. RMI. Jan 8 2025. <https://rmi.org/how-uneconomic-coal-plants-are-taking-a-toll-on-our-health>
  5. *Uneconomic Health Dispatch Health Impacts Dashboard*. RMI. 2024. <https://utilitytransitionhub.rmi.org/economic-dispatch-health-impacts/>
  6. *2025 ACEEE Energy Efficiency Scorecard*. American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. 2025. <https://www.aceee.org/state-policy/scorecard>

more benefits to customers, but these options are overlooked in the IRP as a way to meet expected demand. [Inclusive Utility Investments](#)<sup>7</sup> can lower costs and increase resiliency for participants and ratepayers alike. [Virtual Power Plants \(VPPs\) are cheaper than new gas generation and bring more benefits](#)<sup>8</sup> home to our communities.

The potentially unprecedented increase in load, due primarily to data centers, may have significant [negative impacts](#)<sup>9</sup> on rates and community well being. The utilities and the commission cannot treat this as business as usual. With already high rates, additional rate increases could contribute to the affordable housing crisis and other cost of living issues many Kentuckians are already experiencing. [High energy costs strain household budgets](#)<sup>10</sup>, reduce disposable income, and can put households at risk of being disconnected due to bill debt. This puts hard working Kentuckians at risk of negative health outcomes, eviction, and more. The utilities must explore alternatives that are being implemented nationwide, including Inclusive Utility Investments (tariffs), VPPs, demand side management, as well as [methods specific to handling data center needs](#).<sup>11</sup> Also, rather than relying on rate payers, data centers should be responsible for covering the costs they generate and sign agreements committing to the energy usage they project.

It's impossible to determine precisely how much the Companies' energy loads will increase, especially since the projected data center growth remains speculative. None of the projects included in their load forecast have officially entered the Companies' final "announced" phase, and the Louisville project, in particular, currently lacks any confirmed tenants. It's important to make sure that customers are not on the hook for risky capacity investments that don't benefit them. And *what is already abundantly clear is the fact that* [Kentuckians have been left behind](#)<sup>12</sup> by our [utilities' lack of investments in affordable energy efficiency and resiliency](#)<sup>13</sup> – and that our utilities have to start now and make huge strides to catch up. Kentuckians deserve no less.

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7. *Inclusive Utility Investment*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2024. [https://www.energystar.gov/products/inclusive\\_utility\\_investment](https://www.energystar.gov/products/inclusive_utility_investment)
  8. *Virtual Power Plants (VPPs) Could Save US Utilities \$15-\$35 Billion in Capacity Investment Over 10 Years*. The Brattle Group. May 2 2023. <https://www.brattle.com/insights-events/publications/real-reliability-the-value-of-virtual-power/>
  9. Howland, Ethan. *Utilities may subsidize data center growth by shifting costs to other ratepayers: Harvard Law paper*. Utility Dive. March 10 2025. <https://www.utilitydive.com/news/utilities-subsidize-data-center-growth-ratepayer-cost-shif-harvard-peskoe/742001/>
  10. Brown, Marilyn A et al. *High energy burden and low-income energy affordability: conclusions from a literature review*. Progress Energy. 2022. <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/2516-1083/abb954/pdf>
  11. Esram, Nora, and Camron Assadi. 2025. *Future-Proof AI Data Centers, Grid Reliability, and Affordable Energy: Recommendations for States*. Washington, DC: ACEEE. <https://www.aceee.org/white-paper/2025/04/future-proof-ai-data-centers-grid-reliability-and-affordable-energy/>.
  12. *Kentucky Energy Affordability Dashboard*. KY Office of Energy Policy. 2024. [https://kcewsreports.ky.gov/t/OEP/views/2024\\_KEAD\\_Final/KEAD](https://kcewsreports.ky.gov/t/OEP/views/2024_KEAD_Final/KEAD)
  13. *2025 ACEEE Energy Efficiency Scorecard*. American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. 2025 <https://www.aceee.org/state-policy/scorecard>

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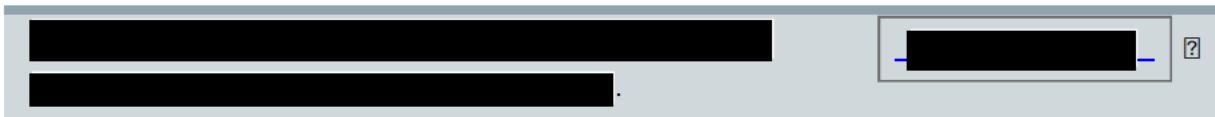
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2025 10:51 AM  
**To:** PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>  
**Subject:** Comment on Case # 2024-00326



Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

As LG&E and KU submit their IRP, they MUST be thinking harder about renewable energy, energy efficiency, and phasing out fossil fuels. There is no way that our communities are going to thrive and survive as the climate warms and becomes more dangerous if we continue with business as usual. Already, floods are devastating our communities and costing millions of dollars. There is also a high risk to carbon pollution, both to our warming atmosphere and our everyday air quality, which affect everyone's health.

These energy companies must address affordability to their customers as well. It is irresponsible to lock us into decades of outdated fossil fuel infrastructure as renewable/clean energy is becoming more affordable and efficient. They need to invest in rooftop solar, batteries, and energy efficiency.

These issues are deeply important to the customers, and we cannot let the companies prioritize their own wealth over the people's well-being.

Sincerely,

Ms. Danica Novgorodoff

[REDACTED] Louisville, KY 40205-1508

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