# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF EAST	)	
KENTUCKY POWER COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR	)	
A GENERAL ADJUSTMENT OF RATES,	)	CASE NO.
APPROVAL OF DEPRECIATION STUDY,	)	2025-00208
AMORTIZATION OF CERTAIN REGULATORY	)	
ASSETS, AND OTHER GENERAL RELIEF	)	

## ORDER

On August 22, 2025, Appalachian Citizen's Law Center (ACLC), Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC), Kentucky Solar Energy Society (KYSES), and Mountain Association (jointly, Joint Movants) filed a motion requesting to intervene in this proceeding. On August 29, 2025, East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) filed a response opposing Joint Movants' motion. Thereafter, Joint Movants filed their reply on September 3, 2025.

#### <u>BACKGROUND</u>

#### **Joint Movants' Motion**

Joint Movants, in their motion, stated that they have a distinct but overlapping interest in, expertise relating to the instant case and argued their interests are distinct and different from those of the existing parties, including the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by and through the Office of Rate Intervention (Attorney

General).<sup>1</sup> Joint Movants further argued they are likely to present issues and develop facts that will assist the Commission without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, Joint Movants stated that they have adopted internal procedures to assure timely decision-making and coordinated participation, will offer joint discovery, testimony, and witnesses, and that they will speak with one voice.<sup>3</sup>

ACLC is a Kentucky non-profit corporation that, since 2001, has focused on addressing environmental, health, and economic impacts of resource extraction in Eastern Kentucky and Central Appalachia, with particular emphasis on utility affordability and energy transition issues.<sup>4</sup> ACLC stated it has a particular interest and expertise in utility affordability throughout Eastern Kentucky and the legacy impacts of the coal industry and economic impacts of its decline.<sup>5</sup> ACLC further stated that it is currently engaged in research and analysis on issues related to utility disconnections for nonpayment and policies and practices that alleviate or exacerbate the threat of disconnections for residential customers across Kentucky.<sup>6</sup> ACLC argued that it has a special interest in the case that is not otherwise represented.<sup>7</sup> ACLC further argued, that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Joint Motion of Appalachian Citizens' Law Center, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Kentucky Solar Energy Society, and Mountain Association for Full Intervention as Joint Intervenors (filed Aug. 22, 2025) (Motion) at 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Motion at 1-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Motion at 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Motion at 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Motion at 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Motion at 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Motion at 4.

in the alternative, it is likely to present issues or develop facts that will assist the Commission without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings.<sup>8</sup>

KFTC is a grassroots organization that has more than 12,000 members across Kentucky, including over 1,000 members who receive their residential electric service from distribution cooperatives that purchase wholesale power from EKPC. 9 KFTC stated that it has been involved with issues affecting low-income residential ratepayers and has significant experience in educating the public and supporting both public comments and expert testimony in rate cases. KFTC further stated that it has gained a deep understanding of the needs of residential customers across the state for energy efficiency, demand side management, and a healthy energy system, and the consequences for communities of the transition to clean energy. 10 KFTC stated that it has a particularized interest and expertise in the impacts of rates charged by EKPC, including effects on lowincome ratepayer-members. 11 KFTC argued that its members include ratepayers that bear the costs and risks of utility rate-making and have a direct interest in supporting reasoned decision-making by a well-informed regulator. 12 KFTC further argued that it would provide expertise on rate-making and the effects on low-income Kentuckians and Kentuckians of color. 13 Additionally, KFTC argued that it is uniquely positioned to be a

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Motion at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Motion at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Motion at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Motion at 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Motion at 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Motion at 9-10.

voice for the needs and interests of EKPC residential ratepayers, particularly low-income ratepayers, who are also KFTC members.<sup>14</sup>

KYSES is a non-profit corporation comprised of members who include residential solar energy customers taking service from EKPC; solar energy enthusiasts; professionals working in the clean energy field in business, nongovernmental organizations, and academia; and advocates for a transition to a clean energy economy. 15 KYSES stated that it has a particularized interest and expertise in implementation of solar energy, renewables, and demand side management (DSM), including rate-making as well as cost-effective energy efficiency resources, smart grid investments, and behind-themeter alternatives to utility-scale projects. 16 KYSES argued that the application in this matter includes the consideration of cost-effective energy efficiency resources and a discussion of smart grid investments.<sup>17</sup> KYSES argued that its expertise in renewable energy and energy conservation will advance the development of a complete record and well-informed decision-making, particularly regarding the effects of net metering tariffs on current and prospective solar customers, as well as the relation to other avoided supplyside alternatives. 18 KYSES further argued that it has a vested interest in and ability to present issues or to develop facts that assist the Commission in fully considering the matter. 19

<sup>14</sup> Motion at 5.

Motion at 0.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Motion at 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Motion at 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Motion at 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Motion at 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Motion at 6.

Mountain Association is a non-profit corporation who works with people in Eastern Kentucky and Central Appalachia. Mountain Association stated it focuses a key part of its programs and research on assisting small commercial ratepayers in Eastern Kentucky with cost saving measures.20 Mountain Association also stated that it possesses significant experience in assisting small commercial and governmental entities with installation of distributed energy resources and understanding net metering tariffs.<sup>21</sup> Mountain Association stated it has a particularized interest and expertise in the effects of rate-making on communities, low-income individuals, and small businesses in Eastern Kentucky.<sup>22</sup> Mountain Association argued these issues are directly relevant to the various requested rate changes and the overall rate-making process.<sup>23</sup> Mountain Association further argued that it has direct experience collaborating with EKPC customers to help them understand, reduce, and afford energy bills, and develop more resilient and reliable energy resources, including behind-the-meter alternatives impacted by tariffs at issue. Additionally, Mountain Association argued that the interest and experience includes economic development needs and trends in central Kentucky and statewide, another matter particularly at issue in this proceeding.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Motion at 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Motion at 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Motion at 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Motion at 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Motion at 10.

### **EKPC Response**

EKPC, in its response, argued that Joint Movants' motion should be denied for failing to meet the criteria required by 807 KAR 5:001(11)(b).<sup>25</sup> EKPC argued that Joint Movants failed to show that they have a special interest that is not otherwise adequately represented.<sup>26</sup> EKPC argued that Joint Movants' motion contains nothing more than general statements regarding who the Movants are and their mission without any explanation as to how those missions relate to EKPC's ratemaking at a wholesale level.<sup>27</sup> EKPC argued that Joint Movants presupposed that EKPC's rate case is a case where the rates are directly charged to a customer, however, that is not the nature of the proceeding.<sup>28</sup>

EKPC stated that ACLC, KFTC, and Mountain Association's only alleged special interest was advocating for energy affordability on behalf of low-income residents.<sup>29</sup> EKCP argued that the alleged special interest of low-income residents was adequately represented by the Attorney General, who has already exercised his statutory right to intervene and has significant expertise and years of representing ratepayers' interest in rate proceedings.<sup>30</sup> EKPC argued that Joint Movants' intervention is subordinate to the Attorney General's broad statutory duty and there is no way to differentiate between low-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Response to Request for Intervention by Appalachian Citizens' Law Center, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Kentucky Solar Energy Society, and Mountain Association (filed Aug. 29, 2025) (EKPC Response) at 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> EKPC Response at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> EKPC Response at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> EKPC Response at 2-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> EKPC Response at 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> EKPC Response at 3.

income residential customers and non-low-income residential customers in a wholesale rate case.31 EKPC further argued that Joint Movants' "special interest" to protect lowincome customers is duplicative of the Attorney General's interest in this case.<sup>32</sup> Additionally, EKPC argued that it does not have low-income customers as it does not have retail electric rates or customers. EKPC stated that its only customers are its sixteen Owner-Member distribution cooperatives to whom it sells wholesale electric power.<sup>33</sup> EKPC argued that because it does not have any retail customers, Joint Movants' special interest is negated.<sup>34</sup> Lastly, EKPC argued that at least one of the Joint Movants does not allege that it, or any of its members, is a customer of EKPC, or any of EKPC's Owner-Members, nor was there any specific allegation that demonstrated any substantive connection on the part of ACLC to any of the Owner-Member cooperatives, and therefore, EKPC argued that ACLC could not have a special interest in this matter and could not present issues or to develop facts that assist the Commission.<sup>35</sup> EKPC argued that because Joint Movants' alleged special interest was adequately represented by the Attorney General or was otherwise nonexistent due to the lack of low-income customers, Joint Movants failed to show any special interest in the case and the motion should be denied.36

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> EKPC Response at 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> EKPC Response at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> EKPC Response at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> EKPC Response at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> EKPC Response at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> EKPC Response at 5-6.

EKPC also argued that Joint Movants are not likely to present issues or develop facts that assist the Commission in fully considering the matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings.<sup>37</sup> EKPC argued that Joint Movants did not allege any expertise or experience with ratemaking, nor did they allege whether they will file expert testimony.<sup>38</sup> EKPC further argued that Joint Movants did not identify any specific issue or component of this specific case that they would address, or facts that they intend to develop.<sup>39</sup> EKPC stated that Joint Movants argued that they have participated in other cases before the Commission but offered no insight into how they may assist on this case and failed to move to intervene in any of the EKPC's previous rate cases, nor moved to intervene in any of EKPC's Owner-Members' pass-through cases.<sup>40</sup>

Additionally, EKPC argued that Joint Movants' intervention in the Kentucky Utilities Company (KU) and Louisville Gas and Electric (LG&E) rate cases are distinguishable as those cases involve fully litigated retail rates. EKPC further pointed out that the other cases the Joint Movants cite were all in the nature of resource planning cases. EKPC also argued that the only movant that alleged a special interest other than protecting low-income customers was KYSES. EKPC alleged that Joint Movants stated the KYSES had a special interest in promoting renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, and

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> EKPC Response at 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> EKPC Response at 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> EKPC Response at 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> EKPC Response at 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> EKPC Response at 6-7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> EKPC Response at 7.

conservation.<sup>43</sup> EKPC argued that KYSES interest is irrelevant in this case and cannot amount to a special interest and cannot present issues or develop facts that assist the Commission because this rate case is not based on generation but is primarily motivated by interest expenses and inflation.<sup>44</sup> EKPC argued that the case would not address changes to DSM, generation, modeling, load forecasting, or any solar projects; therefore, none of those matters are at issue in the case.<sup>45</sup> EKPC argued that the proper way for Joint Movants to participate in the case is through filing written public comments or offering verbal comment at public hearings and Joint Movants' motion should be denied.<sup>46</sup>

Lastly, EKPC argued that Joint Movants failed to satisfy the procedural requirements for intervention by failing to include their mailing address and electronic email address.<sup>47</sup> EKPC further argued that failure to comply with filing requirements suggests that the Joint Movants could unduly burden the proceedings by failing to abide by Commission regulations.<sup>48</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> EKPC Response at 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> EKPC Response at 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> EKPC Response at 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> EKPC Response at 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> EKPC Response at 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> EKPC Response at 8.

# Joint Movants' Reply

Joint Movants, in their reply to EKPC, argued they had demonstrated through their motions to intervene and through their productive and non-disruptive participation in numerous previous utility cases that they met both alternate prongs for intervention.<sup>49</sup>

Joint Movants argued that EKPC's claim that Joint Movants only alleged special interest is advocating for energy affordability on behalf of low-income residents is untrue.<sup>50</sup> Joint Movants reiterated that their interest include:

[O]ngoing and legacy impacts of the coal industry and the economic impacts of its decline; energy and water affordability on behalf of low-income residents in the region; "consideration of cost-effective energy efficiency resources" as well as "a discussion of smart grid investments...; reducing energy costs and consumption, increasing energy security, and building resilience in the face of climate change; the effects of ratemaking on communities, low-income individuals, and small businesses in Eastern Kentucky.<sup>51</sup>

Joint Movants, alternatively, argued that they have demonstrated that they are likely to present issues or to develop facts that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter.<sup>52</sup> Joint Movants reemphasized their ability to assist the Commission by:

Participating as stakeholders in national and state energy and water affordability discussions and workgroups, by conducting research on utility affordability; Involvement with issues affecting low-income residential ratepayers for over thirty years; Demonstration of significant experience in educating

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Reply of Joint Movants for Joint Intervention Appalachian Citizens' Law Center, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Kentucky Solar Energy Society, Mountain Association to East Kentucky Power Kentucky Company, Inc.'s, Response to Motion for Intervention (filed Sep. 3, 2025) (Joint Movants' Reply) at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Joint Movants' Reply at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Joint Movants' Reply at 2-3.

<sup>52</sup> Joint Movants' Reply at 6.

the public and supporting both public comments and expert testimony in rate cases; Gaining a deep understanding of the needs of residential customers across the state for energy efficiency, demand side management, and a healthy energy system, and the consequences for communities of the transition to clean energy; "including its consideration of cost-effective energy efficiency resources" as well as "a discussion of smart grid investments....; Submitting expert testimony of organization members on the matters at issue and related matters several times; and Focusing programs and research on assisting small commercial ratepayers in Eastern Kentucky, who are often not represented in PSC cases, with cost saving measures.<sup>53</sup>

Lastly, Joint Movants argued they will not unduly complicate or disrupt the proceedings and that the motion was timely and complete. Joint Movants pointed out that EKPC made no claim that intervention would unduly complicate or disrupt the proceeding.

## **LEGAL STANDARD**

The Attorney General has the statutory right to intervene in Commission cases pursuant to KRS 367.150(8)(b). The Attorney General was granted intervention by Order dated July 10, 2025.<sup>54</sup> With limited exception, intervention by all others is permissive and within the sole discretion of the Commission.<sup>55</sup>

The regulatory standard for permissive intervention, set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4, is twofold. Commission regulation 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11), requires a person to set forth in the motion to intervene either (1) a special interest in the proceeding that is not otherwise adequately represented in the case, or (2) that intervention is likely

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Joint Movants' Reply at 6-7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Order (Ky. PSC July 10, 2025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> See, e.g., KRS 164.2807.

to present issues or develop facts that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings.

## DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

Based on a review of the pleadings at issue and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that Joint Movants have failed to demonstrate that they have a special interest in the proceeding over which the Commission has jurisdiction that is not otherwise adequately represented or that Joint Movants are likely to present issues or develop facts that will assist the Commission in considering this matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings for the reasons discussed below.

A person requesting intervention must be asserting an interest in the "rates" or "services" of a utility as those are the items with the Commission's jurisdiction.<sup>56</sup> The Joint Movants asserted an interest in these items, but EKPC provides service at the wholesale level. Generally, the interests asserted by the Joint Movants are relevant at the retail level. However, the Commission's review of the motion should not stop with whether a party has an interest in rates or services but must continue to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 4(11).

### **Special Interest not Otherwise Represented**

In Case No. 2024-00370, the Commission put Joint Movants on notice that in future proceedings they needed to state with specificity their particular interests and expertise relevant to each individual case.<sup>57</sup> While Joint Movants did address their

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> KRS 278.040(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Case 2024-00370, Electronic Application of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. for 1) Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a New Generation Resources; 2) For a Site Compatibility Certificate Relating to the Same; 3) Approval of Demand Side Management Tariffs; and 4) Other General Relief (Ky. PSC Jan 6., 2025), Order at 5.

general interests and expertise in their motion, they failed to state how that was relevant to this case and how those interests and expertise create a special interest in this specific matter. Joint Movants, as previously discussed, claimed their special interests included things such as legacy impacts of the coal industry, energy affordability on behalf of low-income residents, cost-effective energy efficiency resources, smart grid investments, reducing energy costs and consumption, and the effects of ratemaking on low-income individuals and small businesses. Joint Movants, however, did not provide any argument as to how those interests or expertise created a special interest in this case that was not otherwise represented.

Additionally, in accordance with KRS 367.150, the Attorney General is statutorily<sup>58</sup> permitted to intervene in actions before the Public Service Commission and to advise on matters involving consumer interests.<sup>59</sup> The Commission has found, on numerous occasions, that the Attorney General is the party to represent the interests of a consumer.<sup>60</sup> As evidence by the tendered requests for information in this case, the Joint Movants made numerous requests related to issues squarely within the purview of the Attorney General.<sup>61</sup> Joint Movants also requested information that an Owner-Member

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> CR 24.02 allows for "[u]pon timely application anyone may be permitted to intervene in an action: (a) when a statute confers a conditional right to intervene or (b) when an applicant's claim or defense and the main action have a question of law or fact in common...in exercising its discretion the court shall consider whether the intervention will unduly delay or prejudice the adjudication of the rights of the original parties."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> KRS 367.150(8).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Joint Intervenors' First Request for Information. Numerous items requested either involve retail customer interest or are information that owner member cooperatives would control.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Case No. 2009-00198, Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and Approval of Its 2009 Compliance Plan for Recovery by Environmental Surcharge, (Ky. PSC Aug. 28, 2009) Order (denying intervention to customer Tammy Stewart on ground she lacked a special interest meriting intervention, as well as expertise that would assist

Cooperatives would either know or be in possession. Each Owner-Member Cooperative sets its own rates as a retail service provider and the Joint Movants have not filed to intervene in any of the recent Owner-Member Cooperative base rate adjustments cases.<sup>62</sup>

Therefore, the Commission finds that Joint Movants failed to demonstrate they have a special interest that is not otherwise represented, and Joint Movants motion should be denied.

the Commission); Case No. 2009-00174, Application of Kentucky Utilities Company for an Order Approving the Establishment of a Regulatory Asset, (Ky. PSC June 26, 2009) Order (denying Rep. Jim Stewart's Motion to Intervene because he had neither a special interest in the proceeding nor was he likely to assist the Commission to render a decision); Case No. 2007-00337, Joint Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company, Association of Community Ministries, Inc., People Organized and Working for Energy Reform, and Kentucky Association for Community Action, Inc. for the Establishment of a Home Energy Assistance Program, (Ky. PSC Sept. 14, 2007) Order ("[H]old[ing] a particular position on issues pending in ... [a] case does not create the requisite 'special interest' to justify full intervention under 807 KAR 5:001, Section 3(8)(b)."); Case No. 2012-00221, Application of Kentucky Utilities Company for an Adjustment of Its Electric Rates, (Ky. PSC Aug. 9, 2012) Order (denying customer Bruce Nunn's request for intervention); Case No. 2012-00221, Application of Kentucky Utilities Company for an Adjustment of Its Electric Rates, (Ky. PSC Aug. 9, 2012) Order (denying customer Michael Whipple's request for intervention); Case No. 2009-00548 Application of Kentucky Utilities Company for an Adjustment of Base Rates (Ky. PSC June 2. 2010) Order (denying customer Geoffrey M. Young's request for intervention); Case No. 2003-00433 An Adjustment of the Electric Rates, Terms, and Conditions of Louisville Gas and Electric Company (Ky. PSC Jan. 21, 2004) Order (denying customer Robert L. Madison's request for intervention); Case No. 2018-00294 Electronic Application of Kentucky Utilities Company for an Adjustment of Its Electric Rates (Ky. PSC Nov. 16, 2018) Order (denying intervention requests of Don Daugherty, Travis Goodin, Conrad Lanham, Teresa Miller, and Elizabeth Shannon because their requests did not articulate a special interest in the proceeding, only a general interest that they shared with all other KU customers. Additionally, the Commission noted that these individuals did not show that they were likely to present issues or to develop facts that would assist the Commission in resolving this matter); Case No. 2018-00295, Electronic Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company for an Adjustment of Its Electric and Gas Rates, Order (Ky. PSC Nov. 16, 2018) Order (denying intervention request of Teresa Miller because her request did not articulate a special interest in the proceeding, only a general interest that she shared with all other KU customers. Additionally, the Commission noted that she did not show that she was likely to present issues or to develop facts that would assist the Commission in resolving this matter); .

<sup>62</sup> Case No. 2025-00107, Electronic Application of Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation for General Adjustment of Rates (filed May 5, 2025); Case No. 2024-00402, Electronic Application of South Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation for a General Adjustment of Rates and Other General Relief (filed Feb. 3, 2025); Case No. 2024-00351, Electronic Application of Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. for a General Adjustment of Rates (filed Dec. 10, 2024); Case No. 2024-00287, Electronic Application of Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation for a General Adjustment of Rates (filed Oct. 1, 2024); Case No. 2024-00211, Electronic Application of Licking Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation for a General Adjustment of Rates and Other General Relief (filed Aug. 8, 2024).

# Present Issues or Develop Facts Without Unduly Complicating or Disrupting the Proceedings

Joint Movants alternatively argued that they were likely to present issues or develop facts that would assist the Commission in considering the matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings. Joint Movants cited to things such as involvement with issues affecting low-income residential ratepayers, solar energy, renewables, DSM programs, cost-effective energy efficiency resources, smart grid investments, and assisting small commercial ratepayers. Joint Movants pointed out that EKPC's application included consideration of cost-effective energy efficiency resources and a discussion of smart grid investments.

The Commission recognizes the legitimacy of each of these issues, however, none of these issues are at issue in this case. While EKCP's application did mention smart grid investments, it did so in the context of what investments have already been made and did not propose any new smart grid projects. EKPC did not propose any solar energy, renewables, DSM projects, or changes to existing DSM programs. The Joint Movants, notably, were granted intervention in Case No. 2024-00370, the most recent case in which EKPC proposed changes to its DSM portfolio. Joint Movants cited numerous times that they could assist with issues affecting with low-income residential ratepayers and small commercial rate payers. The Commission reiterates that EKPC is a wholesale energy provider whose only customers are the Member-Owned Cooperatives. While the Commission recognizes that EKPC's rates ultimately trickle down to ratepayers through the Member-Owned Cooperatives, the Commission points out that, as discussed above, those Member-Owned Cooperatives each conduct their own rate cases which have a

greater impact on the rates customers pay, including low-income and small commercial rate payers.

Joint Movants have failed to state what issues or facts they would help to develop in the present case and how they would develop those issues or facts. The Commission expects parties to contribute to the record related to issues raised in the application and issues raised in this motion are better suited for a motion in a Member-Owned Cooperatives' individual application for a general or streamline rate adjustment. The Commission notes that several years ago the Commission denied EKPC's motion for intervention in a separate general rate adjustment finding that the issues raised were either beyond the jurisdiction of the Commission and noted the EKPC was not a retail customer of Kentucky Utilities Company.<sup>63</sup> As such, the Commission found that the intervention would unduly complicate the proceedings.<sup>64</sup> For the reasons discussed above, the Commission finds that Joint Movants have failed to demonstrate that they would present issues or develop facts to assist the Commission without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceeding, and therefore, Joint Movants motion should be denied.

The Commission emphasizes that being granted permissive intervention in one case does not guarantee intervention in another case, and just because an intervenor has a special interest or can help develop facts in one case, does not mean that fact holds true for another case. The Commission notes that a party wishing to intervene must state

<sup>63</sup> Case No. 2016-00370, Electronic Application of Kentucky Utilities Company for an Adjustment of Its Electric Rates and for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity (Ky. PSC Feb. 1, 2017), Order.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Case No. 2016-00370, (Ky. PSC Feb. 1, 2017), Order.

with specificity the interests and expertise of the intervening party and state how those interests and expertise are related to that specific case. If a party seeking to intervene in a case does not explain how its interest and expertise demonstrates a special interest in each proceeding that is not otherwise adequately represented or that it is likely to develop facts that will assist the Commission, and that it would not unduly complicate or disrupt the proceedings, then the party seeking intervention has failed to provide sufficient evidence to meet its burden pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 4. Failure to provide a fully developed argument for intervention results in failure to meet one's burden of proof, resulting in denial of intervention.

Joint Movants will have an opportunity to participate in this proceeding even though they are not granted intervenor status. Joint Movants can review all public documents filed in this case and monitor the proceedings via the Commission's website <a href="https://psc.ky.gov/Case/ViewCaseFilings/25-208">https://psc.ky.gov/Case/ViewCaseFilings/25-208</a>. In addition, Joint Movants may file comments as frequently as they choose, and those comments will be entered into the record of this case.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Joint Movants' motion to intervene is denied.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

Commissioner

Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director

ENTERED

SEP 19 2025

KENTUCKY PUBLIC AB SERVICE COMMISSION

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