

CABINET FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Andy Beshear Governor Old Capitol Annex 300 West Broadway Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Jeff Noel Secretary

January 27, 2023

Public Service Commission Post Office Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602 VIA E-MAIL PSCED@KY.GOV

RE: In the Matter of Joint Special Contract Filing of Big Rivers Electric Corporation and Kenergy Corp. Tariff Filing System No. 2023-00016

To Whom It May Concern:

Following receipt of notice of the filing by the Big Rivers Electric Corporation and Kenergy Corp. of electric service agreements with the Public Service Commission (the "PSC") referenced above, which among other things, includes an economic development rate for the electric load of Pratt Paper (KY), LLC (formerly known as Pratt Paper (3.0), LLC) (the "Company"), the Cabinet for Economic Development (the "Cabinet") hereby provides *for informational purposes only* the following publicly available information regarding the Cabinet's incentives provided to the Company as of the date hereof.

On July 29, 2021, the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority ("KEDFA") granted preliminary approval for Kentucky Business Investment and final approval for Kentucky Enterprise Initiative Act incentives in relation to the Company's construction and operation of a new paper mill in Henderson, Kentucky. On January 27, 2022, KEDFA approved a reduction in the state ad valorem tax rate associated with Local Industrial Revenue Bonds issued on behalf of the project. Publicly available board materials for each of these approvals detailing the Cabinet's understanding of the project, performance requirements, and approved incentives are enclosed for your reference.

Nothing contained herein shall be construed as an intervention in this case by the Cabinet. Furthermore, the Cabinet does not make any representations regarding the contents, completeness, or propriety of the filing. In no event shall this informational letter be construed as an endorsement of the proposed electric service agreements or be construed as limiting the PSC's ability to pursue any additional due diligence or investigations related to this filing as it may deem necessary in its sole and absolute discretion.

Sincerely. Voel, Secretar Jeff Calinet for Economic Development

Enclosures CC: J.E.B. Pinney Katie Smith



# KENTUCKY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY

# **KBI REPORT - PRELIMINARY APPROVAL**

Date: Approved Company: Approved Affiliate(s): City: Activity: Bus. Dev. Contact:	July 29, 2021 Pratt Paper (3.0), LLC Pratt (1.0 Corrugating), LL Henderson Manufacturing B. Cox	C County: Henderson Prelim Resolution #: KBI-I-21-23538 DFS Staff: D. Phillips
Project Description:	Pratt Paper (3.0), LLC is a newly formed entity of Pratt Industries, Inc is a producer of 100% recycled paper and corrugated packaging. The phase one of the proposed project would consist of a new paper mill operation to manufacture recycled paper from 100% post-consumer Phase two of the project will consist of a new corrugated operation to produce corrugated sheets and boxes, composed of 100% recycled materials.	

Facility Details:Locating in a new facility

Anticipated Project Investment - Owned	Eligible Costs	Total Investment
Land	\$0	\$0
Building/Improvements	\$100,000,000	\$100,000,000
Equipment	\$299,800,000	\$299,800,000
Other Start-up Costs	\$200,000	\$200,000
TOTAL	\$400,000,000	\$400,000,000

# **NEGOTIATED TARGETS AND INCENTIVE AMOUNTS:**

		Average Hourly Wage Target (Including	Annual Approved Cost
Year	Job Target	Employee Benefits)	Limitation
As of Activation Date	321	\$39.00	
1	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
2	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
3	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
4	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
5	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
6	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
7	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
8	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
9	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
10	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
11	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
12	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
13	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
14	321	\$39.00	\$933,333
15	321	\$39.00	\$933,338

TOTAL NEGOTIATED TAX INCENTIVE AMOUNT:

\$14,000,000

# Incentive Type:

Enhanced

## Statutory Minimum Wage Requirements:

Base hourly wage: \$9.06 Total hourly compensation: \$10.42

Ownership (20% or more):

Pratt Industries, Inc. - Conyers, GA

Active State Participation at the project site: None

Requested Wage Assessment / Local Participation: State: 5.0%

Unemployment Rate:

County: 3.8%

Kentucky: 3.9%

Existing Presence in Kentucky: None

# Special Conditions:

Only investment costs incurred by the approved company will be considered towards calculating eligible costs. Only the approved company may participate in the corporate income tax credit incentive (no affiliate is eligible). The jobs creation/maintenance and wage requirements will be satisfied collectively by the approved company and the affiliate(s) recognized above.

KRS 154.32-020 states the following: For any economic development project with an eligible investment of more than \$200 million, the authority may authorize approval to the economic development project based upon terms and incentives applicable to economic development projects locating in an enhanced incentive county. The project will be required to incur eligible costs of at least \$200 million prior to receiving final approval.

# KENTUCKY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY KEIA REPORT

Date: Approved Company: City: Activity: Bus. Dev. Contact:	July 29, 2021 Pratt Paper (3.0), LLC Henderson Manufacturing B. Cox	County: Henderson Resolution #: KEIA-22-23539 DFS Staff: D. Phillips
Project Description:	Pratt Paper (3.0), LLC is a newly formed entity of Pratt Industries, Inc. and is a producer of 100% recycled paper and corrugated packaging. The phase one of the proposed project would consist of a new paper mill operation to manufacture recycled paper from 100% post-consumer fiber. Phase two of the project will consist of a new corrugated operation to produce corrugated sheets and boxes, composed of 100% recycled materials.	
Facility Details:	Locating in a new facility	

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Anticipated Project Investment	Eligible Costs	Total Investment
Land	\$0	\$0
Building Construction	\$60,000,000	\$100,000,000
Electronic Processing Equipment	\$0	\$0
Research & Development Equipment	\$0	\$0
Flight Simulation Equipment	\$0	\$0
Other Equipment	\$0	\$299,800,000
Other Start-up Costs	\$0	\$200,000
TOTAL	\$60,000,000	\$400,000,000

# Existing Presence in Kentucky: None

**Approved Recovery Amount:** 

Construction Materials and Building Fixtures:

\$3,500,000

\$3,500,000

# TOTAL NEGOTIATED TAX INCENTIVE AMOUNT:

See KBI file (KBI-I-21-23538) for Ownership, Other State Participation and Unemployment Rate.

# TAX-EXEMPT GOVERNMENTAL UNIT/STATUTORY AUTHORITY ISSUANCE OF INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS (IRB)

# KENTUCKY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY REQUEST FOR REDUCTION IN STATE AD VALOREM TAX RATE

Date: Issuer: Company: City: Project Type: Bus. Dev. Contact:	January 27, 2022 City of Henderson Pratt Paper (KY), LLC Henderson New B. Cox	County: Henderson Resolution #: LIRB-2022-01 DFS Staff: D. Phillips
Project Description:	Pratt Paper (KY), LLC, is the 6th US paper mill to be built by Pratt Industries, Inc. Pratt is the 5th largest corrugated packaging company in the USA and the world's largest, privately-held 100% recycled paper and packaging company. The project will be developed in two phases: Phase one will consist of a new paper mill operation to manufacture recycled paper from 100% post-consumer fiber. Phase two will consist of a new corrugated operation to produce corrugated sheets and boxes, composed of 100% recycled materials.	

Proposed	Principal amount of IRB		
Issuance Date	authorization		Term of Bond (years)
March 1, 2022	up to	\$400,000,000	30

#### New, Full-time Jobs to

be Created	Average Annual Salary
321	\$62,317

Anticipated Financed Project Costs	
Land	\$0
Building/Improvements	\$100,000,000
Equipment	\$299,800,000
Infrastructure	\$200,000
TOTAL	\$400,000,000

#### Active State Participation at the Project Site:

Date	<u>Program</u>	Status	<u>Amount</u>
Jul 29, 2021	KBI	Approve-Prelim	\$14,000,000
Jul 29, 2021	KEIA	Approve-Final	\$3,500,000

## **Unemployment Rate:**

County: 2.7%

Kentucky: 3.7%

#### Projected New Net Tax Revenues to be Received Over the Term of the IRB

Excluding other state tax credits and incentives approved for the project, if fully utilized by the company. These projections are provided by the company and are not verified by the Cabinet.

State Tax Revenues	\$17,182,945
Local Tax Revenue	\$25,435,695
TOTAL	\$42,618,640

Requested % Reduction in the Ad Valorem Tax		Projected Tax Savings over Bond Term
State:	100%	\$8,047,420
Local:	100%	\$24,368,450

## Payments will be made by the Company in lieu of taxes to the following:

School District - Henderson County Schools

#### **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends approval of the requested percentage reduction in the state ad valorem tax rate on the industrial building and equipment proposed to be financed through the issuance of the industrial revenue bonds.

Note that the KEDFA board is not making any type of determination as to the legality of the bonds to be issued by the above-referenced issuer, but is only approving the reduction on the ad valorem tax rate as provided by KRS 103.200 and KRS 132.020.