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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **PSC Approves EKPC Plan for RICE Generation Facility**

### ***New plant to be built in Casey County***

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 19, 2025)** – The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) today granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (EKPC) to construct a new electric generation station using Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines (RICE) in Casey County, Kentucky. After a review of the record, the Commission found that EKPC has a capacity need which would be filled by EKPC building another generation facility within its service territory; that the RICE units diversify EKPC’s portfolio, provide for a quick start up, and do not create wasteful duplication.

EKPC proposed to construct a new generation facility utilizing RICE generators on approximately 93 acres in Liberty, Casey County, Kentucky. The facility will consist of 12 Wartsila 18VS0DF engines. Each engine will produce approximately 18,132 kW of power for a combined production of approximately 214 megawatt (MW) net of peak load generation. The engines can burn multiple fuels to provide operational flexibility during emergency situations. The primary fuel source will be pipeline-quality natural gas, and the secondary fuel source will be Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD or fuel oil) fuel stored on site. The fuel oil storage tank will be designed to provide 72 hours’ worth of fuel while running all engines at full load. The project will also require a single, new natural gas pipeline, dew point heater, and metering and regulating station (M&R Station) that will be installed on site as part of a separate project to serve the facility. The cost of the construction and materials of the pipeline will be included in the overall cost of natural gas to be paid by EKPC to the natural gas supplier. Construction of the new plant is anticipated to cost approximately \$500 million according to EKPC.

EKPC provided analyses that the facility will be a cost-effective addition to its generation portfolio. The facility is expected to displace higher-cost market power, resulting in fuel savings and potentially lowering EKPC's carbon footprint. EKPC projects that the facility will add approximately \$40.42 million in initial annual costs, translating to an estimated \$3.42 increase on an average consumer's 1,250 kWh monthly bill.

Intervenors in the case include the Attorney General through its Office of Rate Intervention, the Sierra Club, Nucor Steel, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, and Mountain Association.

EKPC is a not-for-profit rural electric cooperative corporation established under KRS Chapter 279 with its headquarters in Winchester, Kentucky. Pursuant to various agreements, EKPC provides electric generation capacity and electric energy to its 16 Owner-Member Cooperatives (Owner-Members), which in turn serve over 570,000 Kentucky homes, farms, and commercial and industrial establishments in 89 Kentucky counties. In total, at the time of the application, EKPC owned and operated approximately 2,963 MW of net summer generating capacity and 3,265 MW of net winter generating capacity.

Today's order, a video of the hearing, and other records in the case are available on the PSC website, [psc.ky.gov](http://psc.ky.gov). The case number is 2024-00310.

The PSC is an independent agency attached for administrative purposes to the Energy and Environment Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,500 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in Kentucky and has approximately 90 employees.

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