

Andy Beshear  
Governor

Rebecca W. Goodman  
Secretary  
Energy and Environment Cabinet



Commonwealth of Kentucky  
**Public Service Commission**  
211 Sower Blvd.  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615  
Telephone: (502) 564-3940  
psc.ky.gov

Angie Hatton  
Chair

Mary Pat Regan  
Commissioner

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Sheri Mahan  
502-782-1735 or 502-401-7067  
[sherik.mahan@ky.gov](mailto:sherik.mahan@ky.gov)

## **PSC Approves EKPC Request to Construct New Generation Facility** Allows New Demand-Side Management and Energy Efficiency Programs

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 3, 2025)** – The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) has granted East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCNs) to construct a new \$1.37 billion combined cycle gas turbine unit at Cooper Station, and to retrofit Cooper Unit 2 and Spurlock Units 1-4 to allow for co-fired generation. The new combined cycle unit will be built at the Cooper Station facility, located near Somerset, and once completed will have 745 MW of generation capacity. In addition, the project will relocate the switchyard and transmission line and will build several new transmission lines that are required to handle the new capacity.

EKPC estimated an in-service date for the new unit of December 2030. Costs to upgrade the Cooper Unit 2 and Spurlock Units 1-4 are estimated to be an additional \$260.8 million.

Along with new transmission lines, EKPC has proposed to contract with Columbia Gulf Transmission to expand its natural gas infrastructure with an extension to run the pipelines to EKPC's property, which consists of approximately 40 miles to the Cooper Station and 40 miles to the Spurlock Station. According to the contracts, EKPC will not



be responsible for the construction, procurement, or maintenance as it relates to the natural gas line or natural gas service.

In an earlier action in this same case, the PSC also approved EKPC's application to adjust its Demand-Side Management (DSM) tariffs and implement new DSM and Energy Efficiency (EE) programs for the company. EKPC proposed to modify three existing DSM-EE programs to include an increase in incentives. The existing programs with proposed modifications are the Button-Up Weatherization Program, the CARES Low-Income Weatherization Program, and the Heat Pump Retrofit Program. EKPC also proposed four new DSM-EE programs to be added to its portfolio. The proposed new programs are the High Efficiency Heat Pump Program (residential), the Backup Generator Control Program (residential), the Commercial Advanced Lighting Program (commercial), and the Commercial and Industrial Thermostat Program (commercial). The investment for the first full year of the modified/new DSM-EE Plan in 2026 is expected to total \$7.49 million, excluding administrative costs. This represents an increase from the \$3.49 million in 2023 costs.

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, which in turn serve over 570,000 Kentucky homes, farms and commercial and industrial establishments in 89 Kentucky counties.

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 2024-00370.

The PSC is an independent agency attached for administrative purposes to the Energy and Environment Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,100 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in Kentucky and has approximately 90 employees.

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