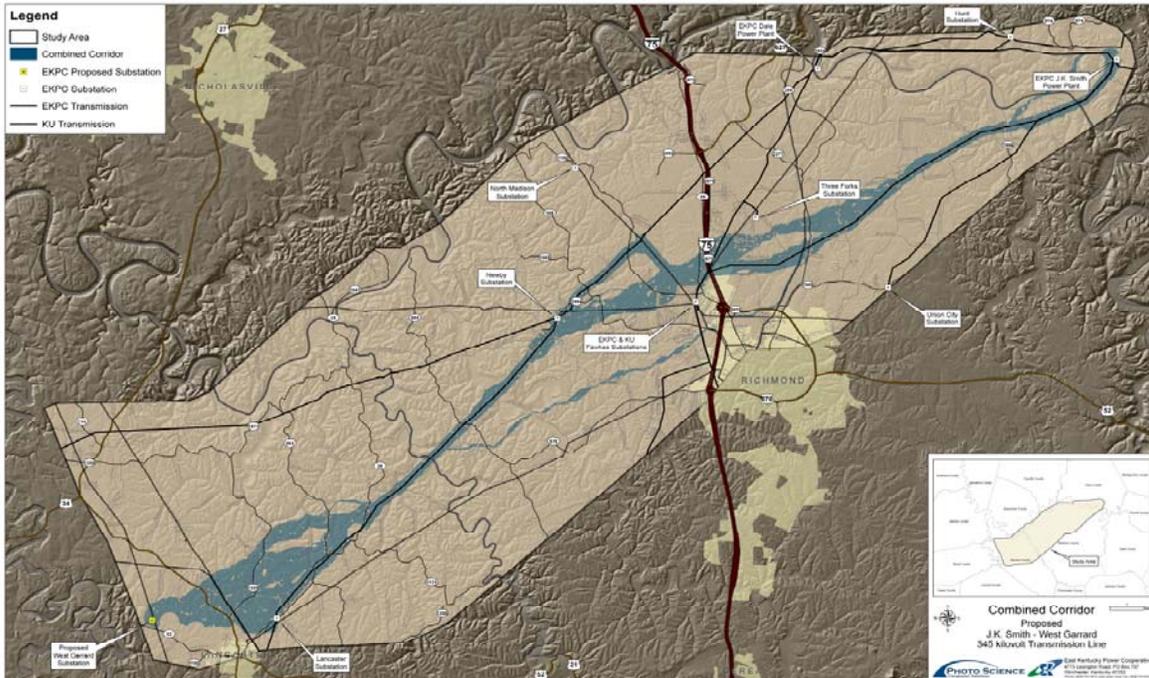


# Public Scoping Report for Smith-West Garrard 345 kV Transmission Line Project



Prepared by:



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

To accommodate load growth among its member cooperatives, EKPC plans to construct generating units at its J.K. Smith Power Station (J.K. Smith), located in the community of Trapp, Ky., in Clark County. The site currently contains seven combustion turbine units (CT's) with a total generating capacity of 826 MW at winter capacity. Four existing 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission lines are currently connected to the J.K. Smith Substation. These lines are insufficient to accommodate delivery of any additional generation at an expanded J.K. Smith Power Station.

The Smith-West Garrard Transmission Line will provide the outlet necessary for any expansion proposed at the J.K. Smith site. The Smith – West Garrard Transmission Line Project is being evaluated in an environmental assessment with scoping requirements per USDA Rural Development Environmental Regulations and Policies 7 CFR 1794.24 (b)(1). The proposed 345 kilovolt facility is estimated to be 35 – 37 miles in length and will require the addition of two 345 kV switching stations at each end of the line. USDA Rural Development has not waived the scoping requirements for this project.

Therefore, EKPC prepared a Macro-Corridor Study of route alternatives and conducted an Alternative Evaluation Study. This Macro-Corridor Study was conducted to develop options for transmission line routing and to assess potential environmental, social and cultural impacts. The Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) examined the various transmission expansion options needed to support the total expected output of the expanded J.K. Smith site through 2010.

The AES resulted in plans for a 345-kV transmission line extending from J.K. Smith Power Station that taps into the existing Brown-to-Pineville double-circuit 345-kV line owned by Kentucky Utilities. At the junction of the two lines, EKPC plans to construct the West Garrard Substation. (As a result, this project is named the Smith-West Garrard transmission line project.)

Once constructed the Smith – West Garrard 345kV Transmission Line Project will provide sufficient capacity for expansion at J.K. Smith Power Station. Copies of the Macro-Corridor Study and Electrical Alternatives Analysis are included in Appendix L.

To inform people about the scoping process and public scoping meeting, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment (EA) was published by the RUS in the Federal Register on June 29, 2006 (Volume 71, Number 125, pp. 37038-37039). A copy of the NOI is included in Appendix A.

A public scoping meeting was conducted by RUS on July 11, 2006 at the Best Western-Holiday Plaza in Richmond, Kentucky. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information regarding the project to the public and solicit comments from the public for the preparation of an EA. The public was notified of this meeting by a series of advertisements in local newspapers and by federal register notice. Copies of the newspaper notices are included in Appendix B.

A community meeting about the proposed project was held on August 3, 2006 at the First Southern National Bank community room in Lancaster, Kentucky. EKPC representatives were available to answer questions and address concerns of the public attendees. A summary of the meeting is included in Appendix I, as well as a copy of the handout issued to the public by EKPC at the meeting.

Two additional public open houses were hosted by EKPC to provide updated information to affected property owners and address their concerns. Prior to the open houses, informational packets were sent to all landowners affected by the project. The packets contained information about EKPC and the need, location, schedule, and construction of the project. A copy of the packet is included in Appendix J.

The first EKPC open house was held on August 29, 2006, from noon to 7 p.m., at Hyattsville Baptist Church in Lancaster, Kentucky. The second open house occurred on August 31, 2006, from noon to 7 p.m., at the Best Western-Holiday Plaza in Richmond, Kentucky. Both open houses had the same set-up as the public scoping meeting. Newspaper articles about the open houses are included in Appendix H. A questionnaire and comment form were available to the public at the open houses and are included in Appendix K.

## **2. INTERAGENCY MEETING**

### **2.1 Agency Meeting**

An agency meeting was held on July 11, 2006 at the Best Western-Holiday Plaza in Richmond, Kentucky. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the project to various local, state, and federal agencies and obtain information about the potential impacts of the proposed transmission line. Representatives from the following agencies were present at the meeting: Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and RUS. EKPC was present to provide information on the proposal. A copy of the agency sign-in sheet is included in Appendix D.

### **2.2 Written Agency Comments**

EKPC sent letters to inform various local, state, and federal agencies about the public scoping meeting. The letters provided a brief project description and information about the public scoping meeting, as well as contact information for agency comments.

The first letter was sent to local officials, including the mayors of Winchester, Richmond, and Lancaster and the county judge executives of Clark, Madison, and Garrard Counties. A second letter was mailed out to state and federal regulatory agencies, including the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, the KHC, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission, and the NRCS. A third letter was sent to state senators and representatives, as well as Congressman Ben Chandler and U.S. Senators Jim Bunning and Mitch McConnell. A fourth letter was mailed to various Indian tribes to allow them to express religious or cultural concerns about the project. A copy of each letter version is included in Appendix C.

Comments were received from the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and the NRCS. The Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma stated that they were unaware of any documentation directly linking Indian Religious Sites to the project area and has no objection to the proposed project. Copies of the agency responses are included in Appendix E.

### **3. PUBLIC SCOPING**

The public scoping process for the project involved the following components:

- notifying people about the public scoping meeting;
- conducting the public scoping meeting; and
- collecting/reviewing public comments.

Additional public involvement has consisted of communicating with the public through letters, in-person and telephone conversations, and newspaper articles about the project.

#### **3.1 Goals and Objectives**

The goal of the public scoping process was to provide information regarding the project to the public and solicit comments from the public for the preparation of an EA. The objectives of RUS and EKPC were to establish a clear and open dialogue with the public and provide a process to identify and define the scope of issues to be addressed in the EA.

#### **3.2 Notification Process**

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment (EA) was published by the RUS in the Federal Register on June 29, 2006 (Volume 71, Number 125, pp. 37038-37039). A copy of the NOI is included in Appendix A.

A public scoping meeting was conducted on July 11, 2006 at the Best Western-Holiday Plaza in Richmond, Kentucky. The public was notified of this meeting by a series of advertisements in local newspapers. Copies of the newspapers notices are included in Appendix B. The following papers published the notice of public scoping meetings:

- Jessamine Journal, published on June 29, 2006
- The Garrard Central Record, published on June 29, 2006
- Lexington Herald-Leader, published on June 30, 2006
- Richmond Register, published on June 30, 2006
- The Winchester Sun, published on July 10, 2006

A newspaper article was also written about the proposed project and appeared in the Lexington Herald-Leader on July 8, 2006. A copy of this article is included in Appendix B.

### **3.3 Public Scoping Meeting**

The public scoping meeting was set up in an open house format, with a series of information stations about various aspects of the proposed project. Each station was staffed by EKPC representatives, who provided information about the project and answered questions. Informative displays and materials were also available to the public at each station. RUS representatives were present at the meeting and provided a comment form for the attendees to complete. Copies of all public scoping meeting materials are included in Appendix F. The information provided at each station is described below.

#### **Welcome and Registration**

RUS representatives welcomed the public to the meeting and asked them to sign-in. People were given a map of the project and a comment form.

#### **Communications**

An EKPC representative was present to greet the public and direct them through the different stations.

#### **Engineering**

Several maps showing the different study corridors were available for viewing. EKPC engineers were present to answer questions and provide additional information.

#### **Construction**

Information on how EKPC constructs its substations and transmission lines was available, with pictures and diagrams of how these structures typically appear. Representatives also provided information on clearing practices, access to construction sites, and other related aspects.

#### **Right-of-Way**

EKPC's ROW buyers talked to affected landowners and provided information on how ROW easements are purchased and maintained.

#### **Natural Resources**

EKPC biologists were available to address any concerns about the environmental impacts of the project. Property owners were informed of endangered species surveys taking place and asked if they knew of any unique environmental features about their property.

## **Electro-magnetic Fields (EMFs)**

Information on the EMFs emitted by transmission lines was available for viewing, with clarification of potential risks to public health, livestock, and other factors.

### **3.4 Public Comments**

A total of 117 comments were received during the scoping comment period that ended August 10, 2006. Public comments were received in the form of letters mailed to RUS and EKPC, emails, comment forms, and verbal comments. A summary of these comments is included in Appendix G. All original comment forms are on file with the RUS.

#### **Summary of Comments by Category**

##### **Location of Transmission Line**

A total of 51 comments were received concerning the location of the transmission line. The majority of the comments were about property owners' preferences on where the line should be placed on their property. Other comments expressed concern about the line crossing fields or other valuable farmland and that the transmission line should follow fence lines and property lines. Comments were also received in which property owners do not want the line to cross their property at all or that the line should not be built. Other concerns in the comments were related to limiting tree cutting and how the line would affect an existing gas pipeline.

##### **Electro-Magnetic Fields (EMFs)**

Fifteen (15) comments about EMFs generated by the transmission line were received. Most comments related to health issues, such as EMFs causing cancer, affecting livestock, and interfering with pacemakers. Other concerns included static caused by EMFs collecting on fences and metal roofs, grounding barns and fences, interference with hand-held wireless devices, and whether or not EMFs could be shielded by a tractor cab.

##### **Construction**

A total of fourteen (14) comments were obtained about how the line should be constructed. Nearly all the comments said that the existing line should be rebuilt or made into double circuit line to avoid building a new transmission line. The comments stated that if rebuild was not possible, paralleling the existing line would be the next best alternative. One comment suggested building the transmission line underground.

##### **Herbicides**

Six (6) comments expressing concerns about the use of herbicides in the right-of-way were received. Several of the concerns were about herbicides affecting the health of

livestock and causing blind calves. Comments about damage caused by the herbicide applicators and a preference for using non-restricted herbicides were also collected.

### **Damage during Construction**

There were six (6) comments received relating to damage that may be caused during construction of the transmission line. Comments addressed damage caused to property while the line was being accessed, damage to wet fields from heavy machinery, and tearing up fences. Also, property owners that had dealt previously with EKPC and have an existing line on their property stated that damage had occurred when the existing lines were built. They were worried damage would occur again as a result of the new transmission line.

### **Aesthetics**

A total of six (6) comments about the visual impacts of the transmission line were obtained. The comments expressed how the line would mar the natural beauty of the area and that property owners do not want the line to be visible from their homes. Other comments said that brown, steel poles would be preferred and that old poles should be removed.

### **Easements**

Five (5) comments were collected about the easements that EKPC will need to obtain for the transmission line. Comments included concerns about the amount of easement needed, how the property owner will be compensated for the easement, and if the easement can be leased to EKPC. One comment stated that the property owner would not sell the easement to EKPC. Another comment was received from a property owner that had dealt with EKPC before and was displeased with the amount he received for his previous easement.

### **Environmental**

Environmental concerns were the focus of four (4) of the comments. General effects of the construction on streams, trees, and erosion were addressed, as well as the possibility of vultures roosting in the poles.

### **Property Values**

Three (3) comments were received about how the transmission line would devalue the affected properties.

### **Development**

A total of two (2) comments were obtained regarding the inability of the property owner to develop their property once the transmission line is built.

**Historic Sites**

Two (2) comments about possible damage to two historic home sites by the transmission line were received.

**Safety**

A comment (1) was collected concerning the use of cherry pickers and other large machinery under the transmission line.

**Noise**

One (1) comment about noise generated by the transmission line was obtained.

#### **4. PROJECT STATUS**

RUS will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) with scoping to assess the potential impacts associated with the Smith-West Garrard Project. The EA will also assess no action and alternative route locations.

The final EA will be available for a 30-day review and comment period after which the RUS will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). Notices announcing the availability of the EA and ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

Any final action by the RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR part 1794).

If you have any questions or desire additional information, please feel free to contact the following:

Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Rural Utilities Service  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571

Telephone: (202) 720-0468  
Email: [stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov)

**APPENDIX A:  
Notice of Intent (NOI)**

by its members. As such, it provides wholesale electricity and related services to five electric distribution cooperatives and one municipal utility. SME's 58,000-square mile (150,220-square kilometer) service area encompasses 22 counties in two states—Montana and a very small area of Wyoming. Under its charter, SME is required to meet the electric power needs of the cooperative member systems it serves. Presently, SME meets all of its power requirements for its member systems by purchasing power from two Federal power suppliers—the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Western Area Power Administration. However, its major supplier (BPA) will begin to phase out its sales of power to SME in 2008, and terminate them entirely by 2011. Thus, SME does not have the capacity to meet all of its members' power needs beyond roughly 2010.

After considering various ways to meet those future needs, SME identified the construction of a new coal-fired power plant near Great Falls—the proposed HGS—supplemented with four wind turbines on the same site, as its best course of action to meet its electric energy and related service needs. An Alternative Evaluation Study and the DEIS examined a total of 26 alternative means of responding to the identified purpose and need for the project. These alternatives were evaluated in terms of cost-effectiveness, technical feasibility, and environmental soundness. Twenty-three alternatives were considered but dismissed from more detailed analysis on one or more of these grounds. The three alternatives analyzed fully in the Draft EIS are the No Action Alternative, Proposed Action (HGS at the Salem Site eight miles east of Great Falls), and Alternative Site (building the power plant at a designated industrial park closer to Great Falls).

Under the No Action Alternative, the HGS would not be constructed or operated to meet the projected 250-MW base load needs of SME. There would be no facilities constructed at either the Salem or Industrial Park sites to meet the purpose and need.

Under the Proposed Action, a 250-MW (net) generating station utilizing CPB technology to burn coal—the HGS—would be built and operated approximately eight miles east of Great Falls. In addition, four 1.5-MW wind turbines would be constructed and operated on the same site. Ash from coal combustion would be disposed of using approved means on-site. The Proposed Action would entail potentially significant adverse impacts on cultural

and visual resources, because it is located on and adjacent to the Great Falls Portage National Historic Landmark. Other adverse but non-significant impacts of the Proposed Action include those on soils, water, air, biological resources, noise, transportation, farmland and land use, human health and safety, and environmental justice. The Proposed Action would result in moderately beneficial socioeconomic impacts, including increased employment opportunities, total purchases of goods and services, and an increase in the tax base.

Utilizing the alternative Industrial Park Site would result in broadly similar impacts to those of the Proposed Action, but with some important distinctions. No wind turbines are proposed for the Industrial Park site. Due to space limitations at the Industrial Park site, ash from coal combustion would be hauled off-site to a licensed landfill for disposal. Adverse but non-significant impacts of the Alternative Site include those on soils, water, air, biological resources, noise, cultural resources, visual resources, transportation, farmland and land use, human health and safety, and environmental justice. Building and operating the proposed SME power plant at the Alternative Site would produce moderately beneficial socioeconomic impacts, including increased employment opportunities, total purchases of goods and services, and an increase in the tax base.

Dated: June 22, 2006.

**James K. Newby,**  
Assistant Administrator, Electric Program,  
Rural Development.  
[FR Doc. 06-5801 Filed 6-28-06; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### East Kentucky Power Cooperative; Notice of Intent to Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare an Environmental Assessment

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment (EA).

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service, an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Programs (USDA Rural Development) intends to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment (EA) related

to possible financial assistance to East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (EKPC) of Kentucky for the proposed construction of approximately 35 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties, KY. The proposed 345 kV transmission line project would be constructed within one of several corridors under consideration. The transmission line corridors originate at the J.K. Smith Power Station near the community of Trapp in Clark County, KY and terminate at the proposed location of a new 345 kV switching station. EKPC is requesting USDA Rural Development to provide financial assistance for the proposed project.

**DATES:** USDA Rural Development will conduct a scoping meeting in an open house format from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2006. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and solicit comments for the preparation of an EA.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will be held at the Best Western-Holiday Plaza located at 100 Eastern Bypass, Richmond, KY 40475; Phone: 859-623-9220.

A Macro Corridor Study will be available for public review at USDA Rural Development, Utilities Programs, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571; at the USDA Rural Development's Web site <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm>; at EKPC's headquarters office 4775 Lexington Road, Winchester, Kentucky 40391; and at the following Public Library locations:

Clark County Library, 370 South Burns Avenue, Winchester, KY 40391. (859) 744-5661. Julie Maruskin, Director.

Madison County Public Library, 507 West Main St., Richmond, KY 40475. (859) 623-6704. Sue Hays, Director.

Garrard County Public Library, 101 Lexington St, Lancaster, KY 40444. (859) 792-3424. Joan Tussey.

Written comments should be sent to: Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, or e-mail: [stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468. Mrs. Strength's e-mail address is [stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EKPC proposes to construct a 345 kV transmission line between a source substation at the J.K. Smith Power Station in Clark County and a proposed switching station located near Lancaster, Kentucky. The proposed line would be constructed within one of several corridors under consideration. The proposed corridors are located in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties. The proposed corridors extend southwesterly from the J.K. Smith Power Station near Trapp, KY. From Trapp, the corridors will extend towards the communities of Union City, Redhouse, and White Hall to the north side of Richmond. From Richmond the corridors head in the southwesterly direction near communities such as Roundhill, Kirksville, Ruthon, Teatersville, Mercery, Nina, and Three Forks towards the proposed location of a 345kV switching station. The proposed switching station would be located west of the community of Lancaster. The transmission line would require a right-of-way of 150 feet. Depending on which route is chosen the approximate length of the transmission line would be from 35–37 miles. It is anticipated that this transmission line would be in service in late spring to early summer of 2009.

Alternatives considered by USDA Rural Development and EKPC include: (a) No action, (b) alternative transmission improvements, and (c) alternative transmission line corridors.

An Electric Alternative Evaluation and Macro Corridor Study Report, prepared by EKPC will be presented at the public scoping meeting. The Report is available for public review at the addresses provided in this notice.

Government agencies, private organizations, and the public are invited to participate in the planning and analysis of the proposed project. Representatives from USDA Rural Development and EKPC will be available at the scoping meeting to discuss USDA Rural Development's environmental review process, describe the project, the need for the project, the macro corridors under consideration, and discuss the scope of environmental issues to be considered, answer questions, and accept oral and written comments.

Questions and comments should be received by USDA Rural Development in writing by August 10, 2006 to ensure that they are considered in this environmental impact determination.

The comments received will be incorporated into the environmental analysis EKPC will submit to USDA Rural Development for review. USDA

Rural Development will use the environmental analysis to determine the significance of the impacts of the project and may adopt it as its environmental assessment of the project. USDA Rural Development's environmental assessment of the project would be available for review and comment for 30 days. Should USDA Rural Development determine, based on the EA of the project, that the project would not have a significant environmental impact, it will prepare a finding of no significant impact. Public notification of a finding of no significant impact would be published in the *Federal Register* and in newspapers with a circulation in the project area. Any final action by USDA Rural Development related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with environmental review requirements as prescribed by the Council on Environmental Quality and USDA Rural Development environmental policies and procedures.

Dated: June 22, 2006.

**Mark S. Plank,**

*Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff, USDA/Rural Development/Utilities Programs.*

IFR Doc. 06-5803 Filed 6-28-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-15-P**

#### COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

##### Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Rhode Island State Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a planning meeting of the Rhode Island State Advisory Committee will convene at 12:30 p.m. and adjourn at 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2006 at the law offices of Tillinghast Licht at 10 Weybosset Street in Providence, Rhode Island. The purpose of the meeting is for the committee to review the transcript and summaries of its May briefing on the disparate treatment of minority youth in the education and justice systems in Rhode Island and to plan future work products and potential briefings.

Persons desiring additional information should contact Barbara de La Viez of the Eastern Regional Office, 202-376-7533 (TTY 202-376-8116). Hearing impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Eastern Regional Office at least 5 (five) working days before the scheduled date of the planning meeting. It was not possible to

publish this notice 15 days in advance of the meeting date because of internal processing delays.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, June 23, 2006.

**Ivy L. Davis,**

*Acting Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.*

IFR Doc. E6-10240 Filed 6-28-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6335-01-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### Census Bureau

[Docket No. 060606154-6154-01]

##### Privacy Act of 1974: System of Records

**AGENCY:** U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of New Privacy System of Records: COMMERCE/CENSUS-10, American Community Survey.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4) and (11), the Department of Commerce is issuing notice of intent to establish a new system of records under COMMERCE/CENSUS-10, American Community Survey.

**DATES:** To be considered, written comments must be submitted on or before July 31, 2006. Unless comments are received, the amendments to the system of records will become effective as proposed on the date of publication of a subsequent notice in the *Federal Register*.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be sent to Gerald W. Gates, Chief Privacy Officer, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233. Comments may be submitted electronically to the following electronic mail address: [Dir.Privacy.Office@Census.Gov](mailto:Dir.Privacy.Office@Census.Gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gerald W. Gates, Chief Privacy Officer, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233, 301-763-2515.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice announces the Department's proposal for a new system of records under the Privacy Act. The system is entitled "American Community Survey." The American Community Survey (ACS) testing (demonstration period) occurred between 1996–2004. During that time period, the survey was conducted under the authority of Title 13, Section 182 (Periodic Censuses and Surveys), and therefore is considered to

**APPENDIX B:**  
**Public Scoping Meeting Newspaper Notices**

800 - LEGALS, NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Rural Utilities Service

East KY Power Cooperative; Notice of Intent to Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare an Environmental Assessment  
AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment (EA).

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service, an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Programs (USDA Rural Development) intends to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment related to possible financial assistance to East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (EKPC) of Kentucky for the proposed construction of approximately 35 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties, KY. The proposed 345 kV transmission line project would be constructed within one of several alternative corridors under consideration. The alternative transmission line corridors originate at the J.K. Smith Power Station near the community of Trapp in Clark County, KY and terminate at the proposed location of a new 345 kV switching station. EKPC is requesting USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT to provide financial assistance for the proposed project.

DATES: USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT will conduct a scoping meeting in an open house format from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2006. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and solicit comments for the preparation of an EA.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the Best Western-Holiday Plaza located at 100 Eastern Bypass, Richmond, KY 40475 Phone: 859-623-9220.

A Macro Corridor Study will be available for public review at USDA Rural Development, Utilities Programs, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571; at the USDA Rural Development's Web site <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/eas/ea.htm>; at EKPC's headquarters office 4775 Lexington Road, Winchester, Kentucky 40391; and at the following Public Library locations:

Clark County Library 370 South Burns Avenue Winchester, KY 40391 (859) 744-5661 Julie Maruskin, Director	Madison County Public Library 507 West Main St. Richmond, KY 40475 (859) 623-6704 Sue Hays, Director
Garrard County Public Library 101 Lexington St Lancaster, KY 40444 (859) 792-3424 Joan Tussey	

Written comments should be sent to: Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, or e-mail: [stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468. Mrs. Strength's e-mail address is [stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EKPC proposes to construct a 345 kV transmission line between a source substation at the J.K. Smith Power Station in Clark County and a proposed substation located near Lancaster. The proposed line would be constructed within one of several alternative corridors under consideration. The proposed corridors are located in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties. The proposed corridors extend southwesterly from the J.K. Smith Power Station near Trapp, KY. From Trapp, the corridors will extend towards the communities of Union City, Redhouse, and White Hall to the north side of Richmond. From Richmond the corridors lead in the southwesterly direction near communities such as Roundhill, Kirksville, Ruthon, Teatersville, McCreary, Nina, and Three Forks towards the proposed location of a 345kV switching station. The proposed switching station would be located west of the community of Lancaster. The transmission line would require a right-of-way of 150 feet. Depending on which route is chosen the approximate length of the transmission line would be from 35 - 37 miles. It is anticipated that this transmission line would be in service in late spring to early summer of 2009.

Alternatives considered by USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT and EKPC include: (a) No action, (b) alternative transmission improvements, and (c) alternative transmission line corridors.

An Electric Alternative Evaluation and Macro Corridor Study Report, prepared by EKPC will be presented at the public scoping meeting. The Report is available for public review at the addresses provided in this notice.

Government agencies, private organizations, and the public are invited to participate in the planning and analysis of the proposed project. Representatives from USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT and EKPC will be available at the scoping meeting to discuss USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT'S environmental review process, describe the project, the need for the project, the macro corridors under consideration, and discuss the scope of environmental issues to be considered, answer questions, and accept oral and written comments.

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Mark S. Plank,  
Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff  
USDA/Rural Development/Utilities Programs.

**Notice of intent to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment (EA).**

The Rural Utilities Service, an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Programs (USDA Rural Development) intends to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment related to possible financial assistance to East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (EKPC) of Kentucky for the proposed construction of approximately 35 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties, KY. The proposed 345 kV transmission line project would be constructed within one of several alternative corridors under consideration. The alternative transmission line corridors originate at the J.K. Smith Power Station near the community of Trapp in Clark County, KY and terminate at the proposed location of a new 345 kV switching station west of Lancaster in Garrard County, KY. EKPC is requesting USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT to provide financial assistance for the proposed project. For more details please refer to the USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT notice in the legal section of this newspaper.

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
Rural Utilities Service

East KY Power Cooperative; Notice of Intent to Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare an Environmental Assessment

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment (EA).

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service, an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Programs (USDA Rural Development) intends to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an environmental assessment related to possible financial assistance to East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (EKPC) of Kentucky for the proposed construction of approximately 35 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties, KY. The proposed 345 kV transmission line project would be constructed within one of several alternative corridors under consideration. The alternative transmission line corridors originate at the J.K. Smith Power Station near the community of Trapp in Clark County, KY and terminate at the proposed location of a new 345 kV switching station. EKPC is requesting USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT to provide financial assistance for the proposed project.

**DATES:** USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT will conduct a scoping meeting in an open house format from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2006. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and solicit comments for the preparation of an EA.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will be held at the Best Western-Holiday Plaza located at 100 Eastern Bypass, Richmond, KY 40475 Phone: 859-623-9220.

A Macro Corridor Study will be available for public review at USDA Rural Development, Utilities Programs, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571.; at the USDA Rural Development's [Web site http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/eas/ea.htm](http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/eas/ea.htm); at EKPC's headquarters office 4775 Lexington Road, Winchester, Kentucky 40391; and at the following Public Library locations:

Clark County Library  
370 South Burns Avenue  
Winchester, KY 40391  
(859) 744-5661  
Julie Maruskin, Director

Madison County Public Library  
507 West Main St.  
Richmond, KY 40475  
(859) 623-6704  
Sue Hays, Director

Garrard County Public Library  
101 Lexington St  
Lancaster, KY 40444  
(859) 792-3424  
Joan Tussey

Written comments should be sent to: Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571; or e-mail: [stephanio.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanio.strength@wdc.usda.gov).

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**LEGAL**

**Vacant School Board Of Education Position**

Help lead Garrard County Board of Education to educational excellence.

**Opportunity**

You have a unique opportunity to serve this community by applying to be considered for appointment to the Garrard County Board of Education. If appointed, you will share responsibilities and accomplishments with other board members by serving the children of Lancaster/Garrard County. Under the provisions of KRS 160.190 (2), this appointment is effective until the next regular November election.

You are invited to nominate yourself or someone you know who is qualified to serve on the Garrard County Board of Education serving the children and citizens of:

\* (educational division #4)

The vacancy was created by resignation.

**Responsibilities of Board Members**

Board members are involved in four main tasks:

\*Developing policy that governs the operation of schools.

\*Providing visionary leadership and vigorous stewardship that establishes long-range educational plans and programs for the district.

\*Hiring the district superintendent and issuing annual evaluation reports.

\*Setting local tax rates and ensuring that public funds are spent wisely.

**Requirements**

Board members must be:

\*At least 24 years old,

\*A Kentucky citizen for the last three years,

\*A registered voter in the district and voter precincts of #3 Poor House - D103

#6 Buckeye - D101

#9 Sugar Creek - D102

educational division, #4

\*Have a high school diploma or GED certificate.

\*Except in limited circumstances, cannot be related to employees of the school district or provide contract services for the district.

Application forms are available from:

\*Garrard County Board of Education Office at 322 West Maple Avenue, Lancaster, Kentucky 40444

\*The Kentucky Department of Education phone number is (502) 564-4474.

Applications must be mailed directly to: Gene Wilhoit, Commissioner of Education, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Applications must be postmarked by July 7, 2006.

The Kentucky Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

(06-22-21c)

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO HOLD  
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS AND  
PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSESSMENT (EA).**

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**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**Rural Utilities Service**

**East KY Power Cooperative; Notice of Intent to Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare an Environmental Assessment**

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

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(859) 744-5561  
Julie Marukin, Director

Madison County Public Library  
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Richmond, KY 40475  
(859) 623-6706  
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Written comments should be sent to: Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, or e-mail: [stephanie.strength@erdc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@erdc.usda.gov)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468. Mrs. Strength's e-mail address is [stephanie.strength@erdc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@erdc.usda.gov)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EKPC proposes to construct a 345 KV transmission line between a source substation at the J.K. Smith Power Station in Clark County and a proposed substation located near Lancaster. The proposed line would be constructed within one of several alternative corridors under consideration. The proposed corridors are located in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties. The proposed corridors extend southwesterly from the J.K. Smith Power Station near Trapp, KY. From Trapp, the corridors will extend towards the communities of Union City, Radhouse, and White Hall to the north side of Richmond. From Richmond the corridors head in the southwesterly direction near communities such as Roundhill, Kerkville, Rufin, Twatersville, Morway, Nina, and Three Forks towards the proposed location of a 345KV switching station. The proposed switching station would be located west of the community of Lancaster. The transmission line would require a right-of-way of 150 feet. Depending on which route is chosen the approximate length of the transmission line would be from 35 - 37 miles. It is anticipated that this transmission line would be in service in late spring to early summer of 2009.

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**Public Notice**  
**LEGAL**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**Rural Utilities Service**  
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Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff  
USDA/Rural Development/Utilities Programs  
July 10, 2006

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# \$47 million power line proposed

Would span 3 counties,  
on new or existing route

By Greg Kocher

CENTRAL KENTUCKY BUREAU

East Kentucky Power Cooperative wants to build a high-voltage transmission line from Clark County through Madison and Garrard counties to Lancaster.

A public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday in Richmond to provide information about the proposal and to solicit public comment. The route could change, depending on what residents say about it at that meeting.

If approved by the Kentucky Public Service Commission, the line generally would follow the route of an existing line in the three counties.

"We would either rebuild that line or co-locate beside it," said utility spokesman Nick Comer. "Experience tells us that rebuilding existing lines or paralleling them tends to be more

acceptable to folks than building a new line where one doesn't exist right now."

The utility has the power of eminent domain, which means it can condemn property if an owner refuses to sell an easement. But Comer said that is used only as "a last resort."

"We would much prefer to work with the property owners and come to a mutually agreeable settlement," Comer said.

The new 345-kilovolt transmission line would originate from a substation at the J.K. Smith Power Station near Trapp in Clark County and end at a proposed new substation west of Lancaster.

The line is needed to handle new generating capacity at Smith Station, where East Kentucky Power plans to build five

See POWER, D2

# POWER | Comments from public to be considered during planning

From Page D1

combustion-turbine units fired by natural gas and one more coal-fired unit. The plant now has seven combustion-turbine units that generate power during peak usage periods in summer and winter.

The proposed line would require a right of way of 150 feet. Depending on the route chosen, the transmission line would be 35 to 37 miles long.

It is anticipated that the new transmission line would be in service in late spring or early summer 2009.

The proposed line will cost \$47 million. East Kentucky Power Cooperative, based in Winchester, is applying for a loan from the Rural Utilities Service, which administers loans and loan guarantees to electric utilities to serve cus-

## Power company seeks opinions from public

A public meeting about the proposed East Kentucky Power Cooperative transmission line will be Tuesday at the Best Western-Holiday Plaza, 100 Eastern Bypass, Richmond.

You can visit any time between 3 and 7 p.m. to see maps and other information about the proposed transmission line.

The purpose of the meeting is to share information and solicit public comments for the preparation of an environmental assessment.

A corridor study is available for review at the Clark, Madison and Garrard County public libraries and at East Kentucky Power Cooperative's headquarters, 4775 Lexington Road, Winchester.

tomers in rural areas.

Comments received at next week's public meeting at the

The study is also available at [www.usda.gov/us/water/ees/ea.htm](http://www.usda.gov/us/water/ees/ea.htm).

Written comments should be sent to Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 1571, Washington D.C. 20250-1571; or e-mail [stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov).

For further information, call Strength at (202) 720-0468.

Questions and comments should be received by USDA Rural Development in writing by Aug. 10 to ensure that they are considered in the environmental impact determination.

GREG KOCHER

Best Western on Eastern Bypass in Richmond will be considered as part of an environ-

mental assessment.

The utility also anticipates holding "open house" meetings in August. At those meetings, property owners would be asked to review maps showing a proposed route.

After those meetings, East Kentucky Power will seek approval for the transmission line from the Public Service Commission.

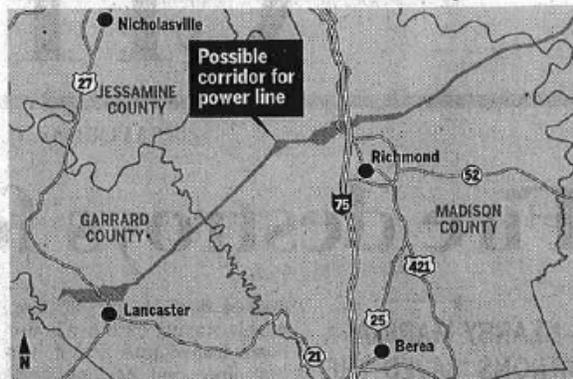
Last year the PSC rejected plans for two similar high-voltage lines submitted by Kentucky Utilities.

One was a 12.4-mile line that would run through Woodford, Anderson and Franklin counties, and the other was a 41.9-mile line from Jefferson County to Hardin County.

In each case, the commission said KU and its parent company, LG&E, should look at existing rights of way before

## Proposed power line

A new 345-kilovolt power line would stretch from the J.K. Smith Power Station near Trapp in Clark County and across northern Madison County to a new substation west of Lancaster in Garrard County.



CHRIS WARE | STAFF

cutting a new swath.

Earlier this year the commission approved — after initially rejecting in 2005 — a request for a 6.7-mile East Kentucky Power Cooperative line that will pass through Daniel Boone National Forest near Morehead.

In that case, the PSC said East Kentucky Power had demonstrated that the route through the forest was the best

alternative for providing reliable service.

East Kentucky Power generates electricity for 16 member cooperatives, which serve 500,000 homes, farms and businesses in 89 counties.

Reach Greg Kocher in the Nicholasville bureau at (859) 885-5775 or [gkocher1@herald-leader.com](mailto:gkocher1@herald-leader.com).

**APPENDIX C:  
Agency Meeting Letters**



June 29, 2006

Judge Kent Clark  
County Judge Executive  
101 West Main Street  
County Courthouse  
Richmond, KY 40475

Dear Judge Clark,

RE: Scoping Meeting for the Smith - West Garrard Transmission Line Project

The Rural Utilities Service, an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Programs (USDA Rural Development) intends to hold an agency scoping meeting and prepare an environmental assessment related to possible financial assistance to East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (EKPC) for the proposed construction of approximately 35 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties, KY. The proposed 345 kV transmission line project would be constructed within one of several alternative corridors under consideration. The alternative transmission line corridors originate at the J.K. Smith Power Station near the community of Trapp in Clark County, KY and terminate at the proposed location of a new 345 kV switching station near Lancaster in Garrard County.

A public scoping meeting will be held at the **Best Western-Holiday Plaza** located at 100 Eastern Bypass, **Richmond, KY 40475** from **3 p.m. until 7 p.m.** on **Tuesday, July 11, 2006.**

The purpose of the meetings is to provide information regarding the project, and solicit comments for the preparation of an EA. I have enclosed a macro-corridor study of the proposed project for your review. Also enclosed is a copy of the federal register notice for the public meeting.

Because East Kentucky Power Cooperative plans to apply for project financing assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service ("RUS"), the proposed project constitutes an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. As the head of a local government in the area that will be affected by the project, and in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800 and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, you or your representative is entitled to participate in the Section 106 review process as a consulting party. If you desire to become formally involved in the regulatory process as a consulting party, please send an email or letter to Joe Settles at [joe.settles@ekpc.coop](mailto:joe.settles@ekpc.coop) or at East Kentucky Power Cooperative, 4775 Lexington Road, Winchester, KY 40391

4775 Lexington Road 40391      Tel. (859) 744-4812  
P.O. Box 707, Winchester,      Fax: (859) 744-6008  
Kentucky 40392-0707      <http://www.ekpc.coop>

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative The logo for Touchstone Energy Cooperative, featuring a stylized sun or starburst design.

We hope you or someone from your staff will be able to attend. Thank you for your time and efforts in this matter.

Sincerely,



Joe Settles  
Supervisor, Natural Resources  
And Environmental Communications



June 29, 2006

Mr. Brian Smith  
Non-Game Coordinator  
KY Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources  
#1 Game Farm Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Mr. Smith,

RE: Agency Scoping Meeting for the Smith - West Garrard Transmission Line Project

The Rural Utilities Service, an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Programs (USDA Rural Development) intends to hold an agency scoping meeting and prepare an environmental assessment related to possible financial assistance to East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (EKPC) for the proposed construction of approximately 35 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties, KY. The proposed 345 kV transmission line project would be constructed within one of several alternative corridors under consideration. The alternative transmission line corridors originate at the J.K. Smith Power Station near the community of Trapp in Clark County, KY and terminate at the proposed location of a new 345 kV switching station.

The agency meeting will be held at the **Best Western-Holiday Plaza** located at 100 Eastern Bypass, **Richmond, KY 40475** from **1 p.m. until 2 p.m.** on **Tuesday, July 11, 2006**. A public scoping meeting will be held in an open house format from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m at the same location.

The purpose of the meetings is to provide information regarding the project, and solicit comments for the preparation of an EA. I have enclosed a macro-corridor study of the proposed project for your review. Also enclosed is a copy of the federal register notice for the public meeting.

We hope you or someone from your staff will be able to attend. Thank you for your time and efforts in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Settles', is written over a horizontal line.

Joe Settles  
Supervisor, Natural Resources  
And Environmental Communications

4775 Lexington Road 40391    Tel. (859) 744-4812  
P.O. Box 707, Winchester,    Fax: (859) 744-6008  
Kentucky 40392-0707        <http://www.ekpc.coop>

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative The logo for Touchstone Energy Cooperative, featuring a stylized sun or starburst design.

July 6, 2006

Honorable Don Pasley  
5805 Ecton Road  
Winchester KY 40391

Rep. Pasley,

RE: Scoping Meeting for the Smith - West Garrard Transmission Line Project

The Rural Utilities Service, which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Programs (USDA Rural Development), will hold a scoping meeting and prepare an environmental assessment related to possible financial assistance to East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (EKPC) for the proposed construction of approximately 35 miles of 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties. The proposed transmission line project would be constructed within one of several alternative corridors under consideration. The alternative transmission line corridors originate at the J.K. Smith Power Station near the community of Trapp in Clark County, Ky., and terminate at the proposed location of a new 345-kV switching station near Lancaster in Garrard County.

**A public scoping meeting will be held at the Best Western-Holiday Plaza located at 100 Eastern Bypass, Richmond, KY 40475, from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2006.** EKPC and RUS representatives will be available during these hours to answer questions, address concerns and note information from the public.

The purpose of the meetings is to provide information regarding the project, and solicit comments for the preparation of an EA. We hope you or someone from your staff will be able to attend. Thank you for your time and efforts in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Settles", is written over a thin red vertical line.

Joe Settles  
Supervisor, Natural Resources and Environmental Communications



June 29, 2006

Dr. Richard Allen, THPO  
Cherokee Nation  
P.O. Box 948  
Tahlequah, OK 74465

Dear Dr. Richard Allen, THPO,

RE: Smith - West Garrard Transmission Line Project

The Rural Utilities Service, an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Programs (USDA Rural Development) intends to hold an agency scoping meeting and prepare an environmental assessment related to possible financial assistance to East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (EKPC) for the proposed construction of approximately 35 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Clark, Madison, and Garrard counties, KY. The proposed 345 kV transmission line project would be constructed within one of several alternative corridors under consideration. The alternative transmission line corridors originate at the J.K. Smith Power Station near the community of Trapp in Clark County, KY and terminate at the proposed location of a new 345 kV switching station near Lancaster in Garrard County.

A public scoping meeting will be held at the **Best Western-Holiday Plaza** located at 100 Eastern Bypass, **Richmond, KY 40475** from **3 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2006.**

The purpose of the meetings is to provide information regarding the project, and solicit comments for the preparation of an EA. I have enclosed a macro-corridor study of the proposed project for your review. Also enclosed is a copy of the federal register notice for the public meeting.

Because East Kentucky Power Cooperative plans to apply for financing assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service ("RUS"), the proposed project constitutes an undertaking subject to the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In this case, RUS is utilizing the services of EKPC to prepare information, analyses and recommendations as part of the Section 106 review process. This correspondence is intended to provide you with a summary of the project and invite you to participate in the Section 106 process pursuant to your unique status as an Indian tribe, as recognized in the Section 106 regulations, 36 C.F.R. § 800.2(c)(2).

In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800 and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, as agent for RUS, is soliciting the

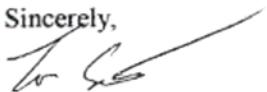
4775 Lexington Road 40391      Tel. (859) 744-4812  
P.O. Box 707, Winchester,      Fax: (859) 744-6008  
Kentucky 40392-0707      <http://www.ekpc.coop>

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

involvement of any Indian tribe that attaches religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by the proposed project. To notify RUS and EKPC of your tribe's desire to become a consulting party for this project, please send a letter, complete with contact information and statement of interest, to Joe Settles at [joe.settles@ekpc.coop](mailto:joe.settles@ekpc.coop) or at East Kentucky Power Cooperative, 4775 Lexington Road, Winchester, KY 40391.

We hope you or someone from your staff will be able to attend. Thank you for your time and efforts in this matter.

Sincerely,



Joe Settles  
Supervisor, Natural Resources  
And Environmental Communications



**Additional letters were also sent to the following:**

**Letter 1**

Richmond Mayor Connie Lawson  
Winchester Mayor Dodd Dixon  
Lancaster Mayor Billy Carter Moss  
Clark County Judge Executive John Meyers  
Garrard County Judge Executive E. J. Hasty

**Letter 2**

David Morgan, Kentucky Heritage Council  
Lee Andrews, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Don Dott, Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission  
William Lacy, Clark County District Conservationist  
John Byrd, Garrard County District Conservationist  
Samuel Miller, Madison County District Conservationist

**Letter 3**

State Senator R. J. Palmer  
State Senator Ed Worley  
State Senator Tom Buford  
State Representative Harry Moberly  
State Representative Lonnie Napier  
U.S. Congressman Ben Chandler  
U.S. Senator Jim Bunning  
U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell

**Letter 4**

Russell Townsend, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Lisa Stopp, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians  
Rebecca Hawkins, The Shawnee Tribe  
Karen Kaniatobe, Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma  
Roxanne Weldon, Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma  
Julie Olds, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma  
John P. Froman, Peoria Indian Tribe of Oklahoma  
Virginia Nail, Chickasaw Nation

**APPENDIX D:  
Agency Sign-in Sheet**



**Scoping Meeting Sign-In Sheet - Agency Meeting**

**Project Name:** Smith - West Garrard 345 kV

Transmission Line and Switching Station

**Date:** July 11, 2006

**Time:** 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Name/Address**

- 121 Stephanie Strength USDA Washington, DC (202)720-0468 Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov
- 122 Mike Norman RERS 89 253 4653 Mike.Norman@wdc.usda.gov
- 123 Jamie-Rice Proctor KY Heritage Council, Frankfort KY (502)664-7005 jamie-ric.proctor@ky.gov
- 124 Samuel Miller USDA - NRCS 2150 Lexington Rd, Suite B, Richmond, KY 40475
- 125 Jire Setters EKPC 4775 Lexington Road, Winchester, KY 40391 jire.setters@ekpc.org
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**APPENDIX E:  
Agency Responses**



**PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA**

118 S. Eight Tribes Trail (918) 540-2535 FAX (918) 540-2538  
P.O. Box 1527  
MIAMI, OKLAHOMA 74355

CHIEF  
John P. Froman

SECOND CHIEF  
Jason Dollarhide

July 10, 2006

East KY Power Cooperative  
Attn: Joe Settles  
4475 Lexington Road  
Winchester, KY 40391

RE: Smith – West Garrad Transmission Line Project

Thank you for notice of the referenced project. The Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma is currently unaware of any documentation directly linking Indian Religious Sites to the proposed construction. In the event any items falling under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) are discovered during construction, the Peoria Tribe request notification and further consultation.

The Peoria Tribe has no objection to the proposed construction. However, if any human skeletal remains and/or any objects falling under NAGPRA are uncovered during construction, the construction should stop immediately, and the appropriate persons, including state and tribal NAGPRA representatives contacted.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J.P.F.', is positioned above the name of the Chief.

John P. Froman  
Chief

xc: Bud Ellis, Repatriation/NAGPRA Committee Chairman

TREASURER  
John Sharp

SECRETARY  
Hank Downum

FIRST COUNCILMAN  
Claude Landers

SECOND COUNCILMAN  
Jenny Rampey

THIRD COUNCILMAN  
Alan Goforth

**Joe Settles**

---

**From:** Miller, Sam - Richmond, KY [sam.miller@ky.usda.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2006 11:50 AM  
**To:** Joe Settles  
**Subject:** RE: GIS Soils information

Joe,

I just mailed you a list of prime farmland and hydric soils for Madison County. Let me know if you have any questions.

Sam

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Joe Settles [mailto:joe.settles@ekpc.coop]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2006 3:22 PM  
**To:** Miller, Sam - Richmond, KY  
**Subject:** RE: GIS Soils information

Thanks Sam. I will forward the information to our GIS person. I would appreciate that list of soils.

Thanks,  
Joe

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Miller, Sam - Richmond, KY [mailto:sam.miller@ky.usda.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2006 3:16 PM  
**To:** Joe Settles  
**Subject:** FW: GIS Soils information

Joe,

Please see the message below concerning websites to access soils information. Let me know if you have problems using these sites.

Please keep in mind that I was not requesting that you include soils data in your evaluation, just making sure you knew it was available. Thanks.

I can mail you a list of prime farmland and hydric soils for Madison County, if needed. Just let me know.

Sam Miller, D.C.  
Richmond F.O.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jones, TK - Frankfort, KY  
**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2006 8:11 AM  
**To:** Miller, Sam - Richmond, KY  
**Subject:** RE: GIS Soils information

He can use the Web Soil Survey at <http://soils.usda.gov> and he should be

able to define the area of interest for downloading into GIS. Or he can go to <http://geodata.gov> and find the necessary data.

T.K. Jones  
Resource Conservationist  
USDA-NRCS  
103 Lakeview Drive  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Voice: 502.695.5203 x112  
Fax: 502.695.7996  
Cell: 859.338.6562

> -----  
>Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail message, including any attachment,  
is for the sole use of the intended recipients and may contain  
confidential information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or  
distribution is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended  
recipient, please contact the sender, by e-mail, and destroy all copies  
of the original message.

>

-----Original Message-----

From: Miller, Sam - Richmond, KY  
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2006 11:20 AM  
To: Jones, TK - Frankfort, KY  
Subject: FW: GIS Soils information

TK,

East Kentucky Power is working with USDA-Rural Utilities Service on a new transmission line across Madison County. See Mr. Settles email below. Could we provide them with digital soils data for the project? If so, how? Thanks.

Sam

-----Original Message-----

From: Joe Settles [mailto:joe.settles@ekpc.coop]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2006 10:33 AM  
To: Miller, Sam - Richmond, KY  
Cc: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC; Ronnie Terrill  
Subject: GIS Soils information

Mr. Miller,

Thank you for attending our agency meeting last Tuesday. At the meeting, you requested EKPC gather soils information for our GIS database. Our GIS person has attempted to get that information, but the information he downloaded does not correlate with prime farmland soils, hydric soils, etc. We would like further guidance to obtain that information. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,  
Joe

Joe Settles

Supervisor, Natural Resources  
and Environmental Communications  
East KY Power Cooperative  
4775 Lexington Road  
Winchester, KY 40391  
Work: 859-745-9256  
Mobile: 859-771-3303  
Fax: 859-744-6008  
Email: joe.settles@ekpc.coop

OK WJC 2/13/88

AGRICULTURAL LAND EVALUATION WORKSHEET #1

List of Soil Series and Evaluations

County and State MADISON KY MLRA \_\_\_\_\_  
 Indicator Crop(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Climatic "C" factor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC without irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC with irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Moisture regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Irrigation water available: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Map Symbol	Soil Series	Slope	Land Cap. Class & Subclass	Important Farmland Determination	Produc Ind. Soil Potent.		Acres		Agric. Value Group
					Local	SCS-5	No.	%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
E1A	Elk silt loam	0-2	I	P	130	96	510	.20	1
ShA	Shelbyville silt loam	0-2	I	P	130	96	1160	.40	1
BaB	Beasley silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	95	70	2080	.70	4
BeB	Berea silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	100	74	3120	1.10	4
CaB	Caleast silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	115	85	4830	1.70	4
CnB	Captina silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	110	82	1980	.70	4
CuB	Culleoka silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	115	85	1130	.40	4
E1B	Elk silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	125	93	1820	.60	2
HaB	Hagerstown silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	125	93	720	.30	2
LwB	Lowell silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	115	85	1970	.70	4
MuB	Mercer silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	105	78	10130	3.60	4
MwB	Monongahela fine sandy loam	2-6	IIe	P	100	74	690	.20	4
NhB	Nicholson silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	115	85	2930	1.00	4
ShB	Shelbyville silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	125	93	7270	2.50	2
TaB	Tate fine sandy loam	2-6	IIe	P	100	74	230	.10	4
TrB	Trappist silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	95	70	920	.30	4

JUN-23-03 MON 10:52 AM

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P = Prime Farmland  
 S = Statewide Important

## AGRICULTURAL LAND EVALUATION WORKSHEET #1

List of Soil Series and Evaluations

County and State MADISON HLRA \_\_\_\_\_  
 Indicator Crop(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Climatic "C" factor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC without irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC with irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Moisture regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Irrigation water available: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Map Symbol	Soil Series	Slope	Land Cap. Class & Subclass	Important Farmland Determination	Produc. Ind. Soil Potent.		Acres		Agric Value Group
					Local	SCS-5	No.	%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
WhB	Whitley silt loam	2-6	IIe	P	110	82	550	.20	4
WoB	Woolper silty clay loam	2-6	IIe	P	115	85	490	.20	4
BeA	Berea silt loam	0-2	IIw	P	100	74	440	.20	5
CnA	Captina silt loam	0-2	IIw	P	105	78	1030	.40	5
Eg	Egam silty clay loam	--	IIw	P	130	96	480	.20	1
Hu	Huntington silt loam	--	IIw	P	135	100	4470	1.60	1
Kp	Kickapoo fine sandy loam	--	IIw	P	120	89	300	.10	1
Ld	Lindside silt loam	--	IIw	P	125	93	2850	1.0	1
MuA	Mercer silt loam	0-2	IIw	P	100	74	1510	.50	5
MWA	Monogahela fine sandy loam	0-2	IIw	P	95	70	360	.10	5
Ne	Newark silt loam	--	IIw	P	110	82	3630	1.30	5
Bo	Boonesboro silt loam	--	IIe	P	100	74	1000	.40	5
BaC	Beasley silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	80	59	6480	2.30	6
BeC	Berea silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	85	63	760	.30	6
CaC	Caleast silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	110	82	6020	2.10	6

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## AGRICULTURAL LAND EVALUATION WORKSHEET #1

List of Soil Series and Evaluations

County and State MADISON MLRA \_\_\_\_\_  
 Indicator Crop(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Climatic "C" factor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC without irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC with irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Moisture regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Irrigation water available: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Map Symbol	Soil Series	Slope	Land Cap. Class & Subclass	Important Farmland Determination	Produc. Ind. Soil Potent.		Acres		Agric Value Group
					Local	SCS-5	No.	%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CnC	Captina silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	95	70	1690	.60	6
CuC	Culleoka silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	110	82	2930	1.00	3
E1C	Elk silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	115	85	1600	.60	3
FdC	Faywood silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	85	63	3720	1.30	6
HaC	Hagerstown silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	110	82	1160	.40	3
LwC	Lowell silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	110	82	15030	5.30	3
MnC	McAfee silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	95	70	730	.30	6
MuC	Mercer silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	95	70	6940	2.40	6
MwC	Monogahela fine sandy loam	6-12	IIIe	S	80	59	700	.20	6
NhC	Nicholson silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	100	74	2580	.90	6
ShC	Shelbyville silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	115	85	4160	1.50	3
TaC	Tate fine sandy	6-12	IIIe	S	95	70	1160	.40	6
TrC	Trappist silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	85	63	1710	.60	6
WhC	Whitley silt loam	6-12	IIIe	S	95	70	1110	.40	6
WoC	Woolper silty clay loam	6-12	IIIe	S	110	82	880	.30	3
Bg	Blago silt loam	---	IIIw	P	95	70	630	.20	7
Du	Dunning silt loam	---	IIIw	P	110	82	1260	.40	5

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AGRICULTURAL LAND EVALUATION WORKSHEET #1

List of Soil Series and Evaluations

County and State MADISON MLRA \_\_\_\_\_  
 Indicator Crop(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Climatic "C" factor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC without irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC with irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Moisture regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Irrigation water available: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Map Symbol	Soil Series	Slope	Land Cap. Class & Subclass	Important Farmland Determination	Produc. Ind. Soil Potent.		Acres		Agric Value Group
					Local	SCS-5	No.	%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Lc	Lawrence silt loam	--	IIIw	P	80	59	11700	4.10	7
Mt	Melvin silt loam	--	IIIw	P	95	70	560	.20	5
BaD	Beasley silt loam	12-20	IVe	NI	65	48	2020	.70	10
BcC3	Beasley silty clay loam, severely eroded	6-12	IVe	NI	60	44	2060	.70	10
BrC	Brassfield silt loam	6-12	IVe	NI	45	33	1520	.50	10
CnC3	Captina silt loam severely eroded	6-12	IVe	NI	45	33	330	.10	10
CuD	Culleoka silt loam	12-20	IVe	NI	85	63	1600	.60	8
Edd2	Eden silty clay loam, eroded	6-20	IVe	NI	75	56	2130	.70	8
E1D	Elk silt loam	12-20	IVe	NI	85	63	350	.10	8
LwD	Lowell silt loam	12-20	IVe	NI	75	56	6590	2.30	8
MnD	McAfee silt loam	12-20	IVe	NI	60	44	1700	.60	10
MuC3	Mercer silty clay loam, severely eroded	6-12	IVe	NI	60	44	310	.10	10
OtcC	Otway silty clay	6-12	IVe	NI	50	37	1440	.50	10
RaC	Rarden silt loam	6-12	IVe	NI	60	44	310	.10	10
ReC	Rockcastle silt loam	6-12	IVe	NI	40	30	170	.10	10

JUN-23-03 MON 10:54 AM

List of Soil Series and Evaluations

County and State MADISON MLRA \_\_\_\_\_  
 Indicator Crop(s) \_\_\_\_\_ C13m "C" Factor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required ANC without irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required ANC with irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Moisture regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Irrigation water available: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Map Symbol	Soil Series	Slope	Land Cap. Class & Subclass	Important Farmland Determination	Produc Ind Soil Potent.		Acres		Agri Valu Grou
					Local	SCS-5	No.	%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
S1D	Shelocka gravelly silt loam	12-25	IVe	NI	70	52	1660	.60	8
SrC	Shrouts silty clay loam	6-12	IVe	NI	50	37	210	.10	10
TaD2	Tate fine sandy loam, eroded	12-20	IVe	NI	65	48	2690	.90	10
TrD	Trappist silt loam	12-20	IVe	NI	70	52	300	.10	8
TrC3	Trappist silty clay loam, severely eroded	6-12	IVe	NI	60	44	390	.10	10
WhD	Whitley silt loam	12-20	IVe	NI	74	55	210	.10	8
Rb	Robertsville silt loam	---	IVw	NI	70	52	3410	1.20	9
AlF	Alluvial land	Steep	VIe	NI	---	---	190	.10	11
BcD3	Beasley silty clay loam, severely eroded	12-20	VIe	NI	---	---	1500	.50	11
BrE	Brassfield silt loam	12-30	VIe	NI	---	---	10500	3.70	11
OwE	Culleoka flaggy silt loam	20-30	VIe	NI	---	---	7760	2.70	1
EeE2	Eden flaggy clay, eroded	20-30	VIe	NI	---	---	7050	2.50	1
FdE	Faywood silt loam	12-30	VIe	NI	---	---	13580	4.80	1

AGRICULTURAL LAND EVALUATION WORKSHEET #1

6

List of Soil Series and Evaluations

County and State MADISON MLRA  
 Indicator Crop(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Climatic "C" Factor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC without irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC with irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Moisture regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Irrigation water available: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Map Symbol	Soil Series	Slope	Land Cap. Class & Subclass	Important Farmland Determination	Produce Ind. Soil Potent.		Acres		Agr. Value Group
					Local	SCS-5	No.	%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
LyE3	Lowell silty clay loam, severely eroded	12-30	VIe	NI	--	--	1500	.50	11
OtE	Otway silty clay	12-30	VIe	NI	--	--	6330	2.20	11
RaD2	Rarden silty loam, eroded	12-20	VIe	NI	--	--	440	.20	11
RcD	Rockcastle silt loam	12-20	VIe	NI	--	--	300	.10	11
RcE	Rockcastle silt loam	20-30	VIe	NI	--	--	2200	.80	11
SrE	Shrouts silty clay loam	12-30	VIe	NI	--	--	3890	1.40	11
WpE	Woolper very stony, silty clay loam	12-30	VIe	NI	--	--	380	.10	1
BrF	Brassfield silt loam	30-50	VIIe	NI	--	--	2330	.80	1
CwF	Culleoka flaggy silt loam	30-50	VIIe	NI	--	--	8060	2.80	1
EeF2	Eden flaggy clay, eroded	30-50	VIIe	NI	--	--	7020	2.50	1
Gu	Gullied land	---	VIIe	NI	--	--	370	.10	1
OtF	Otway silty clay	30-50	VIIe	NI	--	--	2990	1.00	1
SuE3	Shrouts clay, severely eroded	6-30	VIIe	NI	--	--	2990	1.00	1
WeG	Weikert channery silt loam	40-80	VIIe	NI	--	--	6860	2.40	1

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List of Soil Series and Evaluations

County and State MADISON MLRA \_\_\_\_\_  
 Indicator Crop(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Climatic "C" Factor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC without irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum required AWC with irrigation \_\_\_\_\_ Moisture regime \_\_\_\_\_  
 Irrigation water available: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Map Symbol	Soil Series	Slope	Land Cap. Class & Subclass	Important Farmland Determination	Product. Ind. Soil Potent.		Acres		Agr. Val. Gro
					Local	SCS-5	No.	%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CeF	Caneyville very stony silt loam	35-60	VIIIs	NI	--	--	2630	.90	13
CoF	Colyer shaly silt loam	12-50	VIIIs	NI	--	--	3730	1.30	13
CsF3	Colyer shaly silt clay loam, severely eroded	12-50	VIIIs	NI	--	--	4540	1.60	13
CyE	Cynthiana-Rock outcrop complex	12-30	VIIIs	NI	--	--	16370	5.70	13
FaF	Fairmont - Rock outcrop complex	30-60	VIIIs	NI	--	--	9220	3.20	13
RoE	Rock outcrop - opequon complex	12-30	VIIIIs	NI	--	--	950	.30	13
Rs	Rock outcrop, shale	---	VIIIIs	NI	--	--	250	.10	13

HYDRIC SOILS  
MADISON COUNTY  
KENTUCKY

January 1, 1990

Hydric Soil Map Units (Where not drained and/or not protected from flooding)

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hydric part if not whole map unit</u>
Bg	Blago silt loam <u>1/</u>	
Du	Dunning silty clay loam <u>1/</u>	
Mt	Melvin silt loam <u>1/</u>	
Rb	Robertsville silt loam <u>1/</u>	

- 1/ Hydric due to saturation
- 2/ Hydric due to seasonal flooding (None Identified)
- 3/ Hydric due to seasonal ponding (None Identified)

Map Units That May Have Inclusions of Hydric Soils

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Probable landscape position of Hydric Inclusions</u>
Lc	Lawrence silt loam	Robertsville soils in low spots
Ne	Newark silt loam	Melvin soils in low spots

All hydric soils in this county support or would have supported woody vegetation under natural conditions except those identified as swamp or ponded phases.