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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**KY POWER TO HOST OPEN HOUSE TO DISCUSS GRID UPGRADES NEAR PIKEVILLE**

**ASHLAND, Ky., April 19, 2018** – Kentucky Power is planning to improve electric reliability and increase economic development opportunities in eastern Kentucky by making significant upgrades to the power grid in Floyd and Pike counties.

The Enterprise Park Economic & Area Improvements Project consists of building approximately 5 miles of 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation. The work will strengthen the power grid for residential customers while providing the Kentucky Enterprise Industrial Park with a robust transmission system. The upgrade will be capable of handling continued customer growth and provide a vital component for regional economic development.

Currently, there are two study sites for the proposed substation located inside the industrial park. The study segments for the transmission line start at the proposed substation sites and travel northwest through Pike County for about 3 miles before crossing into Floyd County for the final 2 miles. The line will end at the existing Sprigg – Beaver Creek 138 kV transmission line. Kentucky Power's Fords Branch Substation on Old Shelbiana Road will be retired.

Kentucky Power will host an open house to provide the community and directly involved landowners with project details. The company is asking landowners to provide feedback on study segments to help determine a proposed route. The open house is scheduled from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, May 3, at Pikeville High School, 120 Championship Drive, Pikeville.

After the open house, project team members will use information gathered from landowners and the community to work toward a proposed route. Kentucky Power plans to file for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity with the Kentucky Public Service Commission this summer. Upon approval, construction is expected to start this fall and be complete by mid-2019.

Additional information about the project including maps, a project timeline and a virtual open house can be found at [www.kentuckypower.com/EnterprisePark](http://www.kentuckypower.com/EnterprisePark).

Kentucky Power, with headquarters in Ashland, provides service to about 168,000 customers in 20 eastern Kentucky counties, including Boyd, Breathitt, Carter, Clay, Elliott, Floyd, Greenup, Johnson, Knott, Lawrence, Leslie, Letcher, Lewis, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Rowan. Kentucky Power is an operating company in the AEP system, one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity and custom energy solutions to nearly 5.4 million regulated customers in 11 states. AEP also owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system. AEP's headquarters are in Columbus, Ohio.

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