



March 7, 2024

The Honorable Andrew Beshear  
Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

AND

Members of the Kentucky General Assembly  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Governor Beshear and Members of the Kentucky General Assembly,

We are writing to you as concerned citizens, business owners, and community leaders, united by a common concern: the prospect of a grid reliability crisis in the United States and its potential impact on Kentucky.

Kentucky has long enjoyed the benefits of affordable and reliable electricity. This has been a cornerstone of our economic growth, well-being, and quality of life. However, this invaluable asset is now increasingly at risk. Recent forecasts from grid operators and experts are showing just that; we are on the verge of a grid reliability crisis. This challenge, [confirmed](#) by many of our federal grid regulators and energy experts, poses a significant threat not only to our state's economic stability but also to the safety and well-being of every Kentucky resident.

On Christmas Eve 2022, Winter Storm Elliott revealed just how vulnerable our grid is. However, the situation has grown worse. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation's (NERC) recently published [2023–2024 Winter Reliability Assessment](#) explains the fact that a large portion of the North American bulk power system, which includes Kentucky, is at risk of insufficient electricity supplies during peak winter conditions. If extreme weather occurs this winter, we could be faced with the same situation as we were with Storm Elliott.

Prioritizing grid reliability has sometimes been lost in the debate over the comparative advantages of different fuel sources. This is an unfortunate distraction from common-sense policies that enjoy broad public support. For example, a [recent survey](#) of registered Kentucky voters found that electric reliability and affordability are urgent issues. Strikingly, 93% of respondents agreed, and 55% strongly agreed, that regulators and elected officials should be doing more to ensure that Kentucky has access to affordable and reliable electricity. Allowing partisanship to impede collaboration on this issue would be a profound disservice to Kentucky businesses and families.

We are at a critical moment where actions taken to preserve grid reliability today will determine our state's economic future. Nationally, there has been recognition that this problem needs to be addressed, including by modifying EPA regulations and measures to include grid reliability. However, it might be a long while before these solutions come into effect, and this problem is too important for Kentucky to rely on federal officials who lack the same perspective and focus on what matters most in our state. Therefore, we respectfully request that you take deliberate steps to educate and inform your colleagues and constituents of the importance of maintaining a reliable electric grid ready to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow.

We appreciate that several of our state legislators have an increased focus on this issue, and we look forward to partnering with those members as well as the rest of our elected officials to help ensure that Kentucky has a reliable grid and a growing economy. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Dependable Power First  
Kentucky

Daniel Cameron, Former  
Kentucky Attorney General

Bowling Green Area  
Chamber of Commerce

Hancock County  
Industrial Foundation

Greater Owensboro Economic  
Development Corporation

Union County  
Chamber of Commerce

Consumer Action  
for a Strong Economy

Jon Park, Deputy Judge  
Executive of Shelby County

Tom Tye, Chairman of the  
Boyle County Republican Party

Bill Polyniak,  
Former Kentucky Agriculture  
Commissioner Candidate

Donald Fitzpatrick,  
Chairman of the Jefferson  
County Republican Party

Chris Skates,  
Former Senior Advisor for the  
U.S. Department of Energy

Commonwealth Policy Center

Family Business Coalition

Frontiers of Freedom

Institute for Liberty

Guardian Owl Digital

Bit Source

Justin Poland, Kentucky Field  
Director of the Land & Liberty  
Coalition

Aaron Witten, Executive  
Committee Member of the  
Kentucky Republican Party

Bill Ferko, Instructor at the  
University of Louisville  
College of Business