

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

May 26, 2026

IN RE:)
)
PETITION OF KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY D/B/A) **DOCKET NO.**
AEP APPALACHIAN POWER FOR JANUARY, 2025) **26-00015**
THROUGH DECEMBER, 2025 ANNUAL RECOVERY)
UNDER THE TARGETED RELIABILITY PLAN AND)
MAJOR STORM RIDER ("TRP&MS"), ALTERNATIVE)
RATE MECHANISMS APPROVED IN DOCKET NO.)
17-00032)

ORDER GRANTING ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN HEARING

This matter is before the Administrative Judge upon the *Motion for Leave for Witnesses to Appear by Remote Means at Tennessee Public Utility Commission Conference of June 1, 2026, on Behalf of Kingsport Power Company d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power* (“*Motion*”) filed by Kingsport Power Company d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power (“Kingsport Power” or “Petitioner”) on May 20, 2026. In its *Motion*, Kingsport Power seeks permission for its witnesses, Jason E. Baker, Malinda L. Dielman, and John A. Stevens, to testify by remote means in the hearing in the above-captioned matter to be held during the regularly scheduled Commission Conference beginning at 10:00 a.m. (CDT) on June 1, 2026. Kingsport Power requests that its witnesses be allowed to testify or answer questions by remote means because all the witnesses are located outside of the state of Tennessee. Kingsport Power asserts that “[a]llowing witnesses to appear by remote means is efficient, reduces costs, and will be effective because there are no remaining disputed issues between the parties.”¹ In addition, Kingsport Power states the Consumer Advocate

¹ *Motion*, p. 1 (May 20, 2026).

does not object to the *Motion*.

Under the Tennessee Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, decisions involving telephone participation in a hearing are within the Administrative Judge's discretion:

(c) In the discretion of the administrative judge or hearing officer and agency members and by agreement of the parties, all or part of the hearing may be conducted by telephone, television or other electronic means, if each participant in the hearing has an opportunity to participate in, to hear, and, if technically feasible, to see the entire proceedings while taking place.²

In accordance with the above-referenced statute and considering that the request was timely filed and that personal appearance by the witnesses would be burdensome, the Administrative Judge grants Kingsport Power's *Motion*, subject to compliance with the following conditions:

1. Petitioner's attorney shall appear personally at the hearing to present and facilitate questioning of the Petitioner's witnesses.
2. The Petitioner's attorney shall provide the Administrative Judge with the witnesses' correct email addresses so that the WebEx video link can be emailed to the witnesses prior to the hearing.
3. The witnesses should join the WebEx videoconference link at least five (5) minutes before the Commission Conference begins, turn their cameras off, and mute the microphones until this docket is called.
4. The witnesses shall have the technological resources to access the WebEx videoconferencing platform so that the witnesses can be seen and heard clearly via the provided WebEx link for the hearing.
5. If the witnesses are unable to comply with these conditions or technological difficulties prevent the use of the WebEx videoconferencing platform for the hearing, the hearing

² Tenn. Code Ann § 4-5-312(c) (2021).

may need to be postponed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Subject to the conditions set forth in this Order, Kingsport Power Company d/b/a AEP Appalachian Power's witnesses may appear and participate electronically in the hearing to be held on June 1, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. (CDT).

2. To avoid disruption of other matters scheduled for the consideration of the Commission, persons authorized to participate electronically shall join the WebEx videoconferencing link at least **five (5) minutes before the start time set for the Commission Conference**. The Commission Conference will begin promptly.


Monica Smith-Ashford, Administrative Judge

cc: Interested Parties
Original in Docket File