



Frequently Asked Questions Pikeville Advanced Energy Park Concept Proposal

Is Eureka Energy Corporation opposing the proposed data center?

No. The proposal is not intended to oppose the data center. Pikeville should welcome responsible investment, new jobs, and serious economic development. The purpose of the proposal is to help ensure that if the project moves forward, it is structured in a way that protects residents, strengthens the community, and creates long-term economic value.

Why does a data center require special energy planning?

Data centers can require large amounts of reliable electricity. Even an initial data center project can place significant demand on local and regional power systems. That does not mean the project should be rejected. It means the City should carefully evaluate where the power will come from, who will pay for required infrastructure, and how existing residents and small businesses will be protected.

What is the Pikeville Advanced Energy Park concept?

The Pikeville Advanced Energy Park concept is a dedicated energy strategy that could serve the proposed data center, the Kentucky Enterprise Industrial Park, and future large-load industrial users. The idea is to use the data center as the anchor for a broader energy and economic development platform rather than treating it as a one-time project.

What does “dedicated power” mean?

Dedicated power means developing or securing energy capacity specifically for the needs of a large-load customer, such as a data center. The goal is to avoid placing unnecessary cost or reliability burdens on existing residents, small businesses, and ordinary utility customers.

Who should pay for the power infrastructure needed by the data center?

The large-load customer and project sponsors should pay for the infrastructure required to serve their demand. Pikeville residents and small businesses should not be expected to subsidize power generation, transmission, substation, distribution, water, or other infrastructure costs created by a private large-load project.

Would this require Pikeville to create a municipal utility?

No. The proposal does not require Pikeville to immediately create a municipal utility. It recommends a feasibility study to determine whether the City can lawfully, technically, and financially increase local control over generation, procurement, distribution, infrastructure ownership, or related energy services.



A feasibility study does not commit the City to a final decision. It gives the City better information before long-term choices are made.

What is a public-private partnership?

A public-private partnership is a structure where the City can preserve public oversight while private-sector partners help with project development, financing, engineering, energy planning, construction, and implementation. The goal is to use private-sector capacity while protecting the public interest.

What local and regional resources could be evaluated?

The concept recommends evaluating local and regional resources as part of a dedicated-power strategy. Potential resources and technologies may include natural gas generation, advanced coal-related systems, biomass, waste-to-energy, battery storage, microgrid controls, and future technologies as they become commercially viable, such as SMRs (small nuclear reactors), which are proving safe to the environment and people.

The point is not to select one fuel or technology immediately. The point is to determine what combination of resources can provide reliable, affordable, scalable power while creating jobs and keeping more economic value in Pikeville and Pike County.

How could this benefit Pikeville economically?

A dedicated energy strategy could strengthen the Kentucky Enterprise Industrial Park, support future industrial recruitment, create construction jobs, support permanent energy operations and maintenance jobs, expand opportunities for local contractors and suppliers, improve infrastructure resilience, and give Pikeville greater long-term energy flexibility.

What public protections should be required?

Any final agreement involving a large-load energy user should include strong public protections, including:

- no residential or small business ratepayer subsidy;
- developer-funded power capacity;
- stranded cost protection;
- financial security where appropriate;
- water-use and cooling disclosure;
- environmental and site review;
- local hiring and procurement goals;
- clawbacks and performance requirements tied to public incentives;
- public transparency before final approval of material agreements.



What is stranded cost protection?

Stranded cost protection means residents and small businesses should not be left paying for infrastructure if a large-load customer reduces operations, cancels expansion plans, leaves the community, or fails to use the power capacity that was built for it.

Why is water use part of the discussion?

Some data centers require significant water for cooling, depending on the technology used. The public should understand projected water use, cooling strategy, and infrastructure needs before final decisions are made. However, designs and engineering are advancing that build data centers underground and cooling system that are low waters consumers or natural convection cooling designs.

What is the main principle behind the proposal?

The main principle is simple: **The data center can be the catalyst, but local energy control should be the strategy.**

Pikeville should welcome investment, but it should also protect residents, assign costs correctly, require transparency, and use this opportunity to build a stronger long-term economic platform.

What happens next?

Eureka Energy Corporation is sharing the general concept publicly so residents, business owners, and local leaders can better understand the energy and infrastructure questions involved. The next step should be careful evaluation of dedicated power generation, public-private partnership options, municipal energy feasibility, ratepayer protection, and long-term economic development value.