

RESOLUTION NO. 26-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE LEWIS COUNTY FISCAL COURT SUPPORTING THE KENTUCKY NUCLEAR ENERGY READY COMMUNITY CERTIFICATION PROCESS AND ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY PRINCIPLES FOR FUTURE NUCLEAR ENERGY-RELATED DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS,

The Commonwealth OF Kentucky has adopted policies and initiatives intended to strengthen Kentucky's readiness for advanced nuclear energy development through support for workforce training, supply chain participation, site evaluation activities, and related energy innovation efforts; and

WHEREAS,

The Kentucky Nuclear Energy Development Authority established the Nuclear Energy Ready Community certification process pursuant to KRS 164.2804 to recognize communities prepared to responsibly evaluate and participate in nuclear energy-related economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS,

The Nuclear Energy Ready Community certification process includes public educational meetings, community engagement, local government participation, and evaluation of potential development opportunities; and

WHEREAS,

Lewis County recognizes that participation in the emerging nuclear energy economy may create opportunities related to:

- Workforce development;
- Skilled trades employment;
- Manufacturing and supply chain participation;
- Infrastructure investment;
- Research and innovation partnerships; and
- Industrial recruitment and economic competitiveness; and

WHEREAS,

The **Lewis County Fiscal Court** further recognizes that community readiness should be built through transparent public engagement, continued education, and meaningful opportunities for residents to ask questions and participate in future discussions; and

WHEREAS,

Lewis County desires to evaluate future opportunities in a manner that protects local interests, preserves local authority, and ensures continued public involvement throughout any future project consideration process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEWIS COUNTY FISCAL COURT:

Section 1. Support for Nuclear Energy Ready Community Participation

The **Lewis County Fiscal Court** hereby affirms its support for designation of **Lewis County** as a Nuclear Energy Ready Community through the Kentucky Nuclear Energy Development Authority process and recognizes the County's completion of the public engagement and community education activities associated with such designation.

The Fiscal Court further expresses its intent to responsibly position the County for potential nuclear energy-related economic development, workforce, supply chain, infrastructure, and educational opportunities while preserving continued public engagement and local decision-making authority.

Section 2. Commitment to Public Engagement

The County affirms that community engagement should extend beyond minimum statutory requirements and should include continued opportunities for public education, community dialogue, and stakeholder participation regarding nuclear energy-related opportunities.

The County supports:

- Public educational meetings;
- Community question-and-answer sessions;
- Distribution of factual educational materials;
- Continued communication with residents and stakeholders; and
- Coordination with schools, workforce providers, economic development organizations, emergency management, and local municipalities.

Section 3. Community Opportunity Goals

The County seeks to responsibly position itself for potential long-term economic opportunities including:

- Workforce training and skilled trades employment;
- Manufacturing and supply chain participation;
- Industrial and infrastructure investment;
- Educational partnerships; and
- Increased competitiveness for future energy-related investment opportunities.

Section 4. Expectations for Future Nuclear Energy-Related Development

The **Lewis County Fiscal Court** states that any company, developer, contractor, supplier, or organization seeking significant nuclear energy-related investment or development within the County is strongly encouraged to demonstrate commitment to the following principles:

A. Continued Community Engagement

- Timely and transparent public communication;
- Meaningful opportunities for public input;
- Public informational meetings as projects advance; and
- Designated community points of contact.

B. Local Workforce and Economic Participation

- Good-faith efforts toward local hiring and workforce partnerships;
- Coordination with regional educational institutions and training providers; and
- Consideration of local contractors, suppliers, and businesses where feasible.

C. Transparency and Coordination

- Clear communication regarding project scope, timelines, and permitting pathways; and
- Coordination with local governments, infrastructure providers, and emergency management agencies.

D. Responsible Development Practices

- Attention to infrastructure impacts, traffic, land use compatibility, and public safety; and
- Compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Section 5. Preservation of Local Authority

Nothing in this Resolution or participation in the Nuclear Energy Ready Community designation process shall be interpreted as:

- Approval of any specific nuclear project or facility;
- A commitment to provide tax incentives or public funding;

- Automatic approval of zoning, land use, or permitting actions;
- Waiver of future environmental or regulatory review; or
- Limitation of the authority of current or future elected officials or governing bodies.

All future projects shall remain subject to separate public review and approval processes as required by law.

Section 6. Continued Evaluation and Public Process

The County intends to continue evaluating nuclear energy-related opportunities through ongoing public engagement and future discussions as additional information becomes available.

Section 7. Effective Date

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly introduced and adopted by the Lewis County Fiscal Court at a regular meeting held on the 13th day of **JULY , 2026**, upon motion made by _____, seconded by _____, and after discussion, was adopted by the following vote:

YES: _____ NO: _____ ABSTAIN: _____ ABSENT: _____

George Sparks, Judge Executive

Date

Clerk

Date