

**J. KENNEDY**  
**AND**  
**ASSOCIATES, INC.**

**PROPOSAL TO THE  
LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
IN RESPONSE TO RFP 26-02**

**DOCKET NO. I-37858  
JEFFERSON DAVIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., EX PARTE.**

**DOCKET NO. I-37860  
DIXIE ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION, EX PARTE.**

**DOCKET NO. I-37864  
SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION,  
EX PARTE.**

**DOCKET NO. I-TBD  
1803 ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, EX PARTE.**

**IN RE: REQUEST TO INITIATE 2026 INTEGRATED RESOURCE  
PLANNING PROCESS PURSUANT TO GENERAL ORDER  
(CORRECTED) DATED AUGUST 24, 2024 (R-36262).**

**570 Colonial Park Drive  
Suite 305  
Roswell, Georgia 30075  
770-992-2027**

**April 3, 2026**



## **Executive Summary**

J. Kennedy and Associates, Inc. (“Kennedy and Associates”) is pleased to respond to the Louisiana Public Service Commission’s (“LPSC” or the “Commission”) RFP 26-02 that was issued March 13, 2026, and offers to assist the Commission and its Staff in its review of Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“JDEC”), Dixie Electric Membership Corporation (“DEMCO”), Southwest Louisiana Electric Membership Corporation (“SLEMCO”), and 1803 Electric Cooperative (“1803”)’s Integrated Resource Plan (“IRP”) processes. This work will be performed pursuant to the Commission’s General Order No. R-30021 (Corrected) dated April 20, 2012, which initially established IRP requirements for investor-owned utilities (“IOUs”), and also pursuant to the Commission’s General Order No. R-36262 (Corrected) dated August 24, 2024, which added the requirement for cooperative electric utilities to follow the same IRP requirements.

The Commission IRP Rules establish a planning framework to ensure that jurisdictional electric utilities develop long-term resource plans that will achieve the following objective:

The overall objective of the IRP Process is to evaluate a comprehensive set of potential resource options, including supply-side, demand-side and economic transmission resource options, to determinate a base or ‘reference resource’ plan that offers the most economic and reliable combination of resources satisfying the forecasted load requirements. The IRP Rules set forth a process and timeline that includes specific activities necessary to achieve this objective and that incorporates public participation.

The March 13, 2026 RFP document (“RFP document”) states that the JDEC, DEMCO and SLEMCO have all filed correspondence to the Commission requesting to initiate their 2026 IRP processes. The RFP document also states that 1803 will file its correspondence to initiate its IRP process within the next few months.

In accordance with Section 10 of the IRP Rules, the three utilities that have initiated their IRPs (JDEC, DEMCO and SLEMCO) have all included schedules for the twelve events that will be performed as part of the IRP.

In this proposal, we provide our proposed Plan of Action, which addresses the schedules, budget estimate, and we describe the qualifications and experience of our Project Team. Our process will include a complete review of each Companies' proposed data assumptions and modeling scenarios, assistance with all technical conferences, drafting comments, submitting and responding to discovery as appropriate, and providing all necessary regulatory assistance, including among other things, and if required, preparing and filing testimony, testifying at hearing, and assisting with the settlement process. In addition, we will participate in all meetings with Staff and Commissioners as requested, related to this proceeding. We understand that our project plan is preliminary, and that the Commission and Staff shall have the right to determine how the tasks will be carried out.

### **Kennedy and Associates Qualifications**

Kennedy and Associates is uniquely qualified to assist the Staff in these IRP processes for several reasons. First, we assisted Staff in the development of the IRP Rules in Docket No. R-30021, and therefore, we are intimately familiar with requirements and the importance of each of the provisions embedded in the rules. Second, we assisted Staff in the first implementation of ELL's IRP Process in Docket No. I-33014, and therefore have a thorough understanding of the actual steps that need to be performed to complete the IRP process, based on a collaborative process working with all of the stakeholders. Third, we are familiar with the Cooperatives (and the IOUs and MISO) through our experience having worked for the LPSC over the past forty years, and

particularly with 1803 as we were the consultant that assisted Staff in the approval of 1803's initial resource portfolio.

Kennedy and Associates meets all professional qualification requirements specified by the Commission for technical consultants. Should it be necessary, we would be prepared to render expert testimony and stand for cross-examination with respect to all of the issues addressed in this RFP, which may arise in this proceeding. Each of our consultants is experienced in the utility planning process and have evaluated numerous supply-side and demand-side resource alternatives for utilities throughout the US., and in other parts of the world. We have considerable knowledge in each of the following areas, and satisfactorily meet all of these minimum Commission requirements, including knowledge of:

1. The Commission's IRP Rules.
2. The Commission's Rules and Orders pertaining to the RFP process as it relates to the acquisition of power supply resources, including but not limited to, the Commission's Market Based Mechanisms Order and its 1983 General Order, as amended;
3. Policies related to Energy Efficiency and Distributed Generation and their applicability to resource planning;
4. Policies related to Transmission and their applicability to resource planning;
5. Principles associated with resource acquisitions, including but not limited to whether or not a particular resource meets the utility's need for power and whether the considered resources are able to meet those needs;
6. Whether or not a resource will provide reliable service at the lowest reasonable cost;
7. Resource planning methods to improve the efficiency and reliability of a utility's power supply operations and whether the utility is making use of any such methods;
8. Public interest criteria for approval and monitoring of electric generating facility projects;
9. Rules and policies on cost recovery, including each electric cooperative's formula rate plan or other rate plan in place during the course of the IRP; and,
10. MISO and SPP tariffs, rules and planning processes, generally.

Along with the hard copies of this proposal sent to the Commission, we have enclosed a single copy of Kennedy and Associates' Qualifications, which includes the resumes of all principals and consultants. We will be pleased to provide additional copies of our Company's Qualifications upon request.

Our Company's Qualifications demonstrate our experience and the broad scope of the work we have performed on IRP and resource certification proceedings for more than 40 years, in various capacities, including working as employees of utilities, consultants to utilities, and as consultants to regulatory bodies, including the LPSC. We have worked on regulatory proceedings in Louisiana over the same 40-year period and are very familiar with the Commission's Market Based Mechanism Order, and the 1983 General Order. In Louisiana we have worked on a diverse set of projects including the analysis of a Renewable Portfolio Standard, and the development of Energy Efficiency rules. In a current project, we are assisting the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff to evaluate the results of Dominion Energy South Carolina's 2021 IRP Update, and Duke Energy Carolinas' and Duke Energy Progress' 2020 Modified IRPs. We are familiar with all resource planning methods, including the integration of both conventional, renewable, and energy efficiency resources. We have experience with formula rate plans ("FRP"), including both electric cooperatives and IOUs, and we have experience with MISO's tariffs, as we participated on a team that evaluated Entergy's consideration of joining MISO. In short, we believe that we are ideally qualified to assist the Commission and its Staff on this project.

### **Our Project Team**

Our Project Team consists of Mr. Philip Hayet, Vice President, Ms. Leah Wellborn, Director, Ms. Evelyn Menendez, Consultant, and Mr. Brian Barber, Director. We are including brief biographies describing our senior Kennedy and Associates employees' experience in this proposal. In addition,

we are providing full resumes in our Qualifications package that provides more detail regarding our employees’ experience, and lists the regulatory proceedings and subject matters in which expert testimony has been provided.

**Plan of Action**

The Commission’s IRP rule contains specific tasks that need to be performed by various parties, and identifies the deadlines when tasks are to be completed. The following table contains the tasks, and the deadlines that three of the utilities have proposed. The schedule and Plan of Action will be similar for 1803 when it files its Notice. We note that the Commission’s RFP contemplates a 24-month timeline to complete all tasks, though we understand that the timeline may be extended. The schedule included in our table below is based on the utilities March 2, 2026 filings; however, we are flexible, and are prepared to work based on whatever timeline, either shorter or longer, that the Commission and Staff establish.

**Schedule of Events**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>SLEMCO</b>	<b>DEMCO and JDEC</b>	<b>1803</b>
1	Utility Submits Request to Initiate IRP Process Filed	03/02/26	03/02/26	TBD
2	Utility files data assumptions and description of studies to be performed	04/02/26	05/02/26	TBD
3	Utility holds first stakeholder meeting	05/14/26	08/02/26	TBD
4	Stakeholder Comments on Data Assumptions and Studies Filed	07/14/26	11/02/26	TBD
5	Utility publishes draft IRP Report	03/02/27	06/02/27	TBD
6	Utility holds second stakeholder meeting	04/02/27	07/02/27	TBD
7	Stakeholder Deadline to file comments on draft IRP Report	06/02/27	09/02/27	TBD
8	Staff files comments on Utility's draft IRP Report	07/02/27	10/02/27	TBD
9	Utility submits Final IRP Report	10/01/27	11/02/27	TBD

10	Stakeholder Deadline to submit list of disputed issues and alternative recs	12/01/27	12/02/27	TBD
11	Staff submits recommendations to the Commission including whether or not a proceeding is necessary to resolve disputed issues	01/03/28	01/02/28	TBD
12	Commission order acknowledging IRP or sets hearing for disputed issues	03/02/28	02/01/28	TBD
13	Commission hearing to address disputed issues.	TBD	TBD	TBD

### **Description of Work Kennedy will Perform**

**Event 1** – Three of the utilities have already filed their requests to initiate their IRP processes. We have reviewed these filings.

**Event 2** - We will review filed data assumptions and the proposed studies. If we identify issues or concerns, we will discuss those with the Staff and then address those concerns at the stakeholder’s meeting (Event 3).

**Event 3** - We will participate in each utility’s first stakeholder meeting and address any concerns that we identified in the prior task.

**Event 4** - We will review all comments submitted, and summarize the comments.

**Event 5** - We will review each utility’s draft IRP Report. If we identify issues or concerns, we will discuss those with the Staff and then address those concerns at the stakeholder meetings.

**Event 6** - We will participate in each utility’s second stakeholder’s meeting and address any concerns that we identified in the prior task.

**Events 7 and 8** - We will review all comments submitted and develop comments on behalf of Staff.

Note that in accordance with the rules, Staff's comments are primarily intended to determine whether

the utility's meet the requirements of the IRP Rules; however, the Rules do allow Staff to address other matters if it deems it appropriate to do so.

**Event 9** - We will review each utility's final IRP Report and pay attention to the way each utility addresses the stakeholder's comments.

**Events 10, 11, and 12** - We will review the stakeholders' disputed issues and alternative recommendations, if any are identified. We will then assist the Staff in preparing a recommendation to the Commission regarding whether a proceeding is necessary for any of the utilities to resolve disputed issues.

**Event 13** – The utilities did not include this event in their schedules, however, we have included it to account for the possibility that there may be disputed issues that will have to be addressed in a contested hearing. We will work with Staff to develop hearing schedules that meet all Commission requirements. In addition, we will provide all required regulatory assistance including participating in technical conferences, formal status conferences, pre-trial conferences, depositions, and hearings; draft and prepare memoranda and/or pre-filed testimony in support of the Staff's ultimate recommendations, together with exhibits supporting the memoranda and/or pre-filed testimony; and assist in the drafting of applicable motions, exceptions, briefing sheets and orders of the Commission. Additionally, we will participate in informal conference calls, meetings and conferences with the Commission and the Staff as well as attend any Business and Executive Sessions that the Staff deems necessary. The scope of our work will continue through the conclusion of the docket through a Commission vote, regardless of whether that vote is the result of a stipulated agreement or contested hearing recommendation.

**Budget to Perform Comprehensive Review**

Kennedy and Associates will provide the scope of services in this proposal for a budget not to exceed \$195,000, consisting of \$189,000 for consulting services and \$6,000 for expenses. We will not alter our budget or hourly rates on this project without the formal approval of the Commission. We will adhere to all billing requirements included in the Commission's November 10, 2014 General Order. Our hourly rates are attached to this proposal. Also, we note that we will only charge for actual work performed.

**No Conflicts of Interest/Use of Artificial Intelligence (“AI”)**

Kennedy and Associates has no known conflict of interest in representing the Louisiana Public Service Commission in this proceeding. Kennedy and Associates does not represent investor-owned gas or electric utilities. In addition, Kennedy and Associates will not rely on the use of ChatGPT or any other AI type platform in reviewing and analyzing information provided to the Commission.

**Contact Information**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide consulting services to the Commission Staff on this important project. Please call or e-mail Philip Hayet at 770-855-1814, [phayet@jkenn.com](mailto:phayet@jkenn.com), or Leah Wellborn at 478-397-3595, [lwellborn@jkenn.com](mailto:lwellborn@jkenn.com).

## RESUME OF PHILIP HAYET, VICE PRESIDENT

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### EDUCATION

**Purdue University, BS Electrical Engineering**  
**Purdue University, Cooperative Education Certificate**  
**Georgia Tech, MS Electrical Engineering. Specialization in Power Systems.**  
**Post Graduate Study in Business Administration**

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

**National Society of Professional Engineers**  
**Georgia Society of Professional Engineers**  
**Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers**

### EXPERIENCE

Mr. Hayet has over forty-five years of electric utility industry experience in the areas of resource planning, operations analysis, economic analysis, regulatory policy development, and utility rate analysis. He has worked on projects that led to the development of both supply-side and demand-side resources, participated in resource certification proceedings, power purchase agreement evaluations, the development of commission rules concerning integrated resource planning, renewable energy and energy efficiency policies, and has performed many utility fuel audits. Mr. Hayet has written reports and filed expert testimony in federal court, regulatory commissions and at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). Mr. Hayet is an expert in the use of production cost and expansion plan optimization software tools.

**Energy Management Associates (now known as Hitachi Energy) (1980 to 1995):** Lead Consultant, Product Manager. Mr. Hayet provided client support and consulting services to electric utility clients using the PROMOD IV™ and Strategist software systems. These tools were used to perform a wide range of studies, including operations evaluations, resource planning studies, economic evaluations, financial analyses, and accounting and budgeting studies.

**Hayet Power Systems Consulting (1995 to 2015):** President and Principal. Mr. Hayet provided consulting services to clients in the U.S. and abroad related to resource planning analyses. Mr. Hayet assisted in the evaluation of power purchase agreements, generation resource additions, fuel budget audits, resource certifications, and generating unit de-certifications stemming from environmental regulations. Mr. Hayet continued to use PROMOD and Strategist, along with other tools as part of his consulting work.

**J. Kennedy and Associates, Inc. (2000 to Present):** Vice President and Principal. Starting in 2000, Mr. Hayet was employed by both J. Kennedy and Associates and Hayet Power Systems Consulting. In 2015, Mr. Hayet merged his business with J. Kennedy and Associates and became a partner in the firm. Mr. Hayet provides consulting services involving electric utility regulatory matters. Mr. Hayet has assisted in certificate of necessity, utility commission rulemaking, and decertification proceedings. These projects have involved performing production cost modeling and long-term resource planning analyses. Mr. Hayet has used several production cost and resource planning software tools as part of these projects.

# **RESUME OF LEAH J. WELLBORN, DIRECTOR OF CONSULTING**

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## **EDUCATION**

**Georgia Institute of Technology,**  
M.S. Operations Research, 2017

**Georgia Southern University,**  
B.S. Mathematics, 2012

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Women's Energy Network, Greater Atlanta Chapter

## **EXPERIENCE**

Ms. Wellborn has been working in regulated energy markets since early 2013. She started her career working at J. Kennedy and Associates, Inc., and sub-contracting to Hayet Power Systems Consulting. For these companies, she provided critical support in the areas of production cost modeling and data analysis through 2018. Ms. Wellborn then spent nearly 3 years at Accenture, supporting its global regulated energy team within the procurement practice, helping large commercial and industrial clients manage their energy spend and energy related initiatives, as they related to regulated utility tariffs, economic dispatch, planning, and market risk (energy efficiency, green tariffs, PPA/VPPA, etc.). Ms. Wellborn rejoined J. Kennedy and Associates in late 2021 and currently provides analytical support to clients in the areas of utility resource planning and market modeling.

### **J. Kennedy and Associates, Inc. (2021 to Present and 2013-2019):**

Director of Consulting. Ms. Wellborn provides analysis and prepares expert witness testimony on utility planning studies and economic evaluations in review of electric utility regulatory filings. Ms. Wellborn's recent work includes testifying on Integrated Resource Plans (IRP), rate cases, capacity procurement, and data center cost allocation issues. She has appeared in multiple jurisdictions as an expert witness in planning and economic analysis matters, including Georgia, South Carolina, and Kentucky. Clients include State Public Service Commissions, Industrial Users Groups, and Consumer Advocacy Groups.

### **Accenture, LLP (2019 to 2021):**

Associate Manager, Global Regulated Energy Procurement. As a part of Accenture Operations' Energy Management and Procurement practice, the Regulated Energy team helps clients identify opportunities for electricity and natural gas cost savings through data analysis and deep industry experience. Clients include large industrial and commercial end-use customers with locations spread across multiple geographies and utility service territories. Ms. Wellborn was responsible for tariff optimization analysis and ad hoc economic decision analysis for clients with operations and energy spend in areas served by regulated electricity and natural gas distribution utilities.



**J. Kennedy and Associates, Inc.**  
**Hourly Fee Schedule**  
**For Louisiana Public Service Commission RFP 26-02**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
President	Lane Kollen	\$330
Vice President	Philip Hayet	\$330
Executive Consultant	Stephen J. Baron	\$330
Director	Brian R. Barber	\$310
Director	Randy Futral	\$310
Director	Leah Justin Wellborn	\$310
Consultant	Evelyn Menendez	\$220
Analyst	Jessica Inman	\$155
Outside Consultant	Richard A. Baudino	\$310
Outside Consultant	Ann Bruccoliere	\$240
Outside Consultant	Brian Kollen	\$190
Outside Consultant	Anthony Sandonato	\$300

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