

## Pope, ‘heartbroken over devastation,’ assists with tornado cleanup in London

By Keith Taylor  
*Kentucky Today*

LEXINGTON, Ky. (KT) — Kentucky coach Mark Pope took a break from the recruiting trail Sunday and helped clean up debris an EF-3 tornado left behind in London late Friday night.

A photograph posted on social media on Sunday morning showed Pope clearing branches from a damaged home in a London neighborhood. The deadly storm killed 19 in Kentucky on Friday night, with London being the hardest hit area by a storm that tore through parts of the Midwest and killed 28 in Kentucky, Missouri and Virginia. Seven were killed in Missouri and two in Virginia.

“I’m heartbroken over the devastation from the deadly tornadoes that ravaged our great state (Friday night),” Pope said in a social media post. “Our people have endured numerous disasters over the course of several years, but what I know about Kentuckians is this: We are resilient. We will mourn together. We believe in each other. We will stand together and rebuild together. My thoughts and prayers are with everyone affected.”

Former Kentucky guard and Houston Rockets rookie Reed Sheppard helped with recovery efforts on Saturday, and his friend Joshua Maxey said Sheppard didn’t waste any time returning home to help his hometown in a time of need.

“Reed knew the devastation his hometown received and wanted to do something to help,” Maxey said on social media. “He called me up to ask what he could do. I said ‘Just show up, man, I’ll pick you up in 20 minutes. If only for a minute, it’ll lift some people who lost everything... (their) spirit.’”

Maxey said he and Sheppard “worked like dogs for the best part of the day and he picked up belongings, toys, roofs, two-by-fours (wood),

and everything you can imagine. We’ve seen the hurt our people were going through.”

“Yet all he’s done, like always — he was just Reed. He was one of them. Never forgetting where he came from but being a shoulder to cry on to complete strangers and comforting them with words. This is why we all love him. He is the epitome of raised right, and going above and beyond. Trust me, you’ll never find a better human being than Reed Sheppard.”

Sheppard offered his support and prayers on his Instagram account and asked for support in “any way.”

“This is where I grew up. Where I learned what hard work, heart, and grit really mean. And now, my hometown is hurting. The tornado that hit London left behind so much devastation. Families without homes, and people without basic necessities. But if there’s one thing I know about London, it’s that we don’t back down. We help each other. We rebuild. I’m asking you to keep Laurel County in your thoughts and prayers.”

While working and cleaning up on Saturday, Maxey found a Bible that was untouched by the twister on Friday night amid a field of debris.

“I found (the Bible) beneath rubble that looked as if a direct hit from the tornado had landed on (it),” he said on social media. “Not even a slither or a tear or a pin drop of water damage.”

Also on social media, Kentucky football coach Mark Stoops offered his condolences.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone across the commonwealth affected by yesterday’s horrible storms,” Stoops said in a social media post. “Our hearts especially go out to those in the Somerset and London communities. We stand with our state through this difficult time, and we thank the first responders for their hard work at rescue and recovery.”

### NOTICE OF SALE OF FRANCHISE

By virtue of an ordinance heretofore passed by the City Council of Cumberland, Kentucky, directing the advertisement for bids and selling of a franchise to use certain streets, alleys, and public grounds of the City of Cumberland, Kentucky for the purpose of owning, operating, equipping and maintaining a system for the transmission and distribution of electric energy, The City Clerk of Cumberland will on May 12, 2025, at or about 6:30 p.m., sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the City Hall of Cumberland, a franchise for the purpose set out. Said franchise is more particularly described and fully defined in a proposed ordinance granting and creating the same and said proposed ordinance defines the terms and conditions upon which said sale shall be made, the full text of which is available for inspection in the office of the Cumberland City Clerk, 402 West Main Street, Cumberland, Kentucky. The ordinance by title and summary is as follows:

ORDINANCE #484, an Ordinance establishing a franchise agreement related to the transmission and distribution of electrical energy, and the provision of retail electric service in area heretofore served by Kentucky Utilities Company.

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### NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY

#### RECOVERY BY ENVIRONMENTAL SURCHARGE OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY’S 2025 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE PLAN

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that in an April 30, 2025 Application, Kentucky Utilities Company (“KU”) is seeking approval by the Kentucky Public Service Commission (“Commission”) in Case No. 2025-00105, pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 278.183, of an amended compliance plan (“2025 Plan”). (Collectively, KU’s Application and supporting testimony and exhibits are KU’s “tariff filing.”) If approved, KU will begin recovering capital costs associated with a new pollution control facility in the 2025 Plan under KU’s existing Electric Rate Schedule ECR (also known as the Environmental Surcharge tariff) through an increase in the environmental surcharge on customers’ bills beginning in December 2025.

KU filed an application with the Commission on February 28, 2025, in Case No. 2025-00045 seeking approval to construct a selective catalytic reduction system at the Ghent generating station to reduce nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions, which are a precursor to ozone. In Case No. 2025-00105, KU is seeking an order approving the 2025 Plan to recover the costs of this new pollution control facility through its Environmental Surcharge tariff. This project will help ensure ongoing compliance with regulations issued under the federal Clean Air Act as amended, including the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone.

The estimated total capital cost of this new pollution control facility is \$152.3 million. Additionally, KU is requesting recovery of future incremental capital and operation and maintenance expenses associated with this new pollution control facility. KU is also asking to recover the cost of publishing this customer notice through the Environmental Surcharge over 12 months and to have Environmental Surcharge recovery of future Commission-approved administrative expenses, including customer notice costs.

Beginning in December 2025, the initial bill impact for KU’s Group 1 customers is estimated to be a 0.01% increase with a maximum increase of 0.81% in 2029. Group 1 includes Rate Schedules Residential Service (RS), Residential Time-of-Day Energy Service (RTODE), Residential Time-of-Day Demand Service (RTODD), Volunteer Fire Department Service (VFD), All Electric School (AES), and all Lighting Rates (i.e., LS, RLS, LE, and TE).

RS and VFD customers using 1,085 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.01 up to \$1.09. RTODE customers using 1,043 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.01 up to \$1.14. RTODD customers using 987 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.02 up to \$1.80. AES customers using 25,620 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.30 up to \$24.28. LS and RLS customers could expect a monthly increase of \$0.00 up to \$0.12. LE customers using 2,473 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.02 up to \$1.59. TE customers using 147 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.00 up to \$0.15.

Beginning in December 2025, the initial bill impact for KU’s Group 2 customers is estimated to be a 0.01% increase with a maximum increase of 1.10% in 2029. Group 2 includes Rate Schedules General Service (GS), General Time-of-Day Energy Service (GTODE), General Time-of-Day Demand Service (GTODD), Power Service (PS), Time-of-Day Secondary Service (TODS), Time-of-Day Primary Service (TODP), Retail Transmission Service (RTS), Fluctuating Load Service (FLS), and Outdoor Sports Lighting Service (OSL).

GS customers using 1,657 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.03 up to \$2.41. GTODD customers using 19,652 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.31 up to \$25.26. PS-Secondary customers using 30,434 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.39 up to \$32.35. PS-Primary customers using 35,028 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.45 up to \$36.82. TODS customers using 189,538 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$1.54 up to \$126.82. TODP customers using 1,242,574 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$8.25 up to \$678.42. RTS customers using 7,387,224 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$38.91 up to \$3,199.31. FLS-Transmission customers using 44,229,667 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$237.46 up to \$19,525.53. OSL-Secondary customers using 4,627 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.17 up to \$13.87.

The Application described in this Notice is proposed by KU, but the Commission may issue an order resulting in an environmental surcharge for customers other than the environmental surcharge described in this Notice.

Comments regarding KU’s 2025 Plan and Application may be submitted to the Commission through its website or by mail to the Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602.

Any person may submit a timely written request for intervention to the Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, establishing the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of the initial publication of this Notice, the Commission may take final action on the Application.

Any person may examine KU’s tariff filing at the Commission’s offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or through the Commission’s website at <http://psc.ky.gov> or KU’s website (<http://www.lge-ku.com>) after KU makes its tariff filing on April 30, 2025. KU has requested a deviation from the requirement to make the tariff filing available at its office at One Quality Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40507. If the Commission denies that request, KU will make the tariff filing available at its office upon request by any person.