

# Kentucky Energy Watch

Department for Energy Development and Independence

*A snapshot of state and national energy issues*



## ***Critics from left and right raise voices at Duke meeting***

Dueling protesters greeted Duke Energy shareholders Thursday at an annual meeting dominated by critics of the utility's coal, nuclear and renewable energy policies. Duke is coming off strong 2010 earnings, and this week reported first-quarter gains that moved its stock to the highest price in three years. But it also faces potential setbacks in new power plant construction from Indiana, on the northern end of its five-state territory, to its home base in the Carolinas. (The Charlotte Observer, May 6, 2011)

## ***Kentucky Green Bank helps businesses across the state invest in energy-saving technologies***

Since the nation's first state Green Bank was established more than a year ago, more than a dozen companies across Kentucky have competed for loans to fund energy-saving technologies and improvements in their buildings. One of the first loans awarded by the Green Bank of Kentucky, which was created using \$14.4 million in federal stimulus funds, went to the Kentucky Department of Education to help fund a project to improve energy efficiency at three education buildings, including the Kentucky School for the Blind in Louisville. (Business First, April 29, 2011)

## ***KY school system adds hybrid buses to fleet***

Madison County schools are on the road toward reducing their carbon foot print. New hybrid electric school buses are being added to their fleet. The school system hopes this can be a great learning experience in being environmentally friendly. Madison County schools are on the road toward reducing their carbon foot print. New hybrid electric school buses are being added to their fleet. The school system hopes this can be a great learning experience in being environmentally friendly. Recently, Franklin County received two new hybrid electric buses and now Madison County is adding four to their fleet. (WKYT, May 5, 2011)

## ***Obama to visit Indianapolis Friday***

President Barack Obama will be in Indianapolis on Friday to visit Allison Transmission on the city's west side. Obama plans to highlight Allison's hybrid technology and talk about his plan to reduce the nation's dependence on foreign oil. The president is expected to arrive in Indianapolis around midday. 6News will have live coverage of Obama's arrival and speech, and it will also be streamed live on TheIndyChannel.com. Obama originally planned to visit Allison Transmission last month, but that visit was postponed as Congress was locked in a contentious budget battle. (6News, TheIndyChannel.com, May 6, 2011)

## ***Rand Paul crusades against energy efficiency standards***

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee may have entered a new era of partisanship. The committee famous for working across party lines faced heavy resistance yesterday from Republican Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky as it marked up its first legislation of the new Congress. The tea party favorite voted against bipartisan energy efficiency and hydropower measures from panel Chairman Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.) and ranking member Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska). (The New York Times, April 13, 2011)

## ***Tips for improved home HVAC energy efficiency***

There are plenty of things you can do to make a lasting difference when it comes to improving your HVAC energy efficiency this season and all year long. Here are a few quick tips from Trane to help you maximize your home heating and cooling, while minimizing your energy bill. (Marketwire, May 3, 2011)

## ***UK gets \$6.9 million federal grant to help reduce reliance on imported oil***

The University of Kentucky has received a \$6.9 million federal grant to help reduce America's reliance on imported oil, one of eight awards in the country. "It's going to be big," said UK's principal investigator, Sue Nokes, a professor in the department of biosystems and agricultural engineering. Her department will be working with other UK colleges and outside groups including the University of Wisconsin, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Agricultural Research Services. (The Herald-Leader, May 6, 2011)

## ***Ky. partnership with EPA "severely fractured"***

Kentucky Environmental Secretary Len Peters has told a congressional subcommittee he's troubled by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's refusal to talk with states and listen to suggestions regarding the issuance of coal mine permits. Peters testified Thursday before the House Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. He says Kentucky cannot get consistent guidelines on what an acceptable mine permit should be. "It is really in a very significant way breaking that federal-state cooperative partnership to protect the environment that we had for so many years. (WUKY, May 6, 2011)

### Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	5/6/2011	4/29/2011	4/21/2011	4/15/2011	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	3.914	3.885	4.108	3.801	2.832
Ashland	4.031	4.033	2.919	3.912	2.841
Covington	4.035	3.995	3.87	3.855	2.911
Lexington	3.908	3.869	3.797	3.851	2.833
Louisville	3.901	3.959	3.784	3.759	2.858
Owensboro	3.924	3.849	3.774	3.762	2.744
Diesel (State avg.)	4.061	4.051	4.056	4.056	3.006
Ashland	4.077	4.057	4.076	4.084	3.044
Covington	4.089	4.06	4.096	4.067	3.002
Lexington	4.058	4.054	4.068	4.07	3.001
Louisville	4.058	4.062	4.066	4.063	2.979
Owensboro	4.072	4.051	4.066	4.037	2.971

Note: The record high average price for gasoline in Kentucky is \$4.089, reported on July 10, 2008.  
 Source: Gasoline (unleaded regular) & Diesel: National AAA,

### Wholesale Fuel Prices

Spot Prices	5/6/2011	4/29/2011	4/21/2011	4/14/2011	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	99.8	112.86	110.89	108.11	85.17
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	4.3	4.34	4.335	4.135	4.11

Source: Wall Street Journal

Futures		11-Jun	11-Jul	11-Aug
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	5/6/2011	99.80	100.34	100.64
	4/29/2011	*	112.86	*
	4/20/2011	108.15	111.45	*
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	5/6/2011	4.261	4.331	4.376
	4/29/2011	4.377	4.571	*
	4/20/2011	4.31	4.357	*
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	5/6/2011	1.484	1.486	1.491
	4/29/2011	1.448	1.585	*
	4/20/2011	1.435	1.472	*
Coal (Dollars per ton) <i>Central Appalachian</i>	5/6/2011	74.02	74.93	74.93
	4/29/2011	79.67	78.9	*
	4/20/2011	77.33	77.58	*

Source: CME Group

\* - Information not available



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