
Students to offer ideas for Paducah plant

Middle school students in western Kentucky will get a chance to offer ideas on possible future uses for the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant. The U.S. Department of Energy is working with 53 students on a mentoring project with the gifted and talented programs at Heath Middle School and Lone Oak Middle School. This is the third year Heath students have taken part and the first for Lone Oak students. The Paducah Sun reported that (bit.ly/SvjdC5) the project takes place inside and outside the classroom with potential real-world applications as the future of the site remains in question. In May, the U.S. Enrichment Corporation, which leases the site from the Energy Department, agreed to extend uranium enrichment operations at plant for at least one year. The plant's future beyond is uncertain. (Kentucky.com – Oct. 1, 2012)

PSC to study use of smart grid technologies, including smart meters

The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) has initiated an administrative proceeding to consider the implementation of smart grid technologies, including smart meters, and electric prices that are tied to the time of usage. In an order issued today, the PSC said the proceeding would examine “all aspects” of smart grid technologies, including implementation costs, technical issues and societal impacts. Smart grid technology uses advanced information tools to improve the efficiency, reliability and safety of electric distribution and transmission networks. It includes meters and other devices that are capable of receiving and transmitting data about usage, pricing and grid status in real time. Smart grid technologies are central to the implementation of what is known as “dynamic pricing,” which bases the cost of electricity on the time of usage and overall electric demand. Pricing can be based on predetermined schedules or can vary with demand in real time. (The Lane Report – Oct. 1, 2012)

Habitat members to spend fall break rebuilding homes in Eastern Kentucky

During fall break, some students may be heading to the beach or visiting family members, but for one group of WKU students and faculty the scene this week will include nails, hammers and saws as they rebuild a community devastated by tornadoes. Six members of WKU Habitat for Humanity will be heading to West Liberty Thursday-Saturday (Oct. 4-6) to assist with the rebuilding of homes destroyed by tornadoes that swept through eastern Kentucky on March 2. The Habitat for Humanity affiliates in Rowan and Menifee counties are building high energy efficient homes to exceed standards set by Energy Star and are assisting the community in rebuilding hope for the future. (Surfky.com – Oct. 1, 2012)

Hoosiers may pay \$1.1B over 8 years to subsidize coal-gas plant

A controversial deal obligating Indiana natural gas customers to pay for energy from a planned coal-gas plant in Rockport would add \$1.1 billion to Hoosier energy bills over eight years, new estimates show. All residential ratepayers -- regardless of their provider -- would see their monthly gas bills increase an average of about \$3.90 during that period, according to estimates from Vectren Corp., a critic of the coal gasification plant. That's about \$375 per ratepayer over eight years. The plant's developer, Leucadia National Corp., called Vectren's estimates “absurd,” and Gov. Mitch Daniels said through a spokeswoman that he continues to support the project. (Indystar.com – Sept. 29, 2012)

Announcing the 2012 Kentucky Clean Diesel Grant Program Application Period: Oct. 3 – Nov. 14, 2012

The Kentucky Division for Air Quality (DAQ) announces the availability of funds and solicits proposals for projects to implement diesel emissions reduction strategies in Kentucky. Approximately \$135,000 is available through this competitive funding opportunity. The eligible funding range will be \$50,000 to \$134,809 per proposal. Any public or private entity located in the Commonwealth of Kentucky that owns and operates its own eligible diesel vehicles, engines, and/or equipment. This includes but is not limited to any city, county, or other local government agency; private organizations or businesses; universities; school districts; and nonprofits. Eligible vehicles include Engines, and Equipment: medium-duty or heavy-duty onroad vehicles; transit or school buses; marine engines; non-road engines, equipment, or vehicles such as those used in mining and construction. (DAQ internet site – Oct. 3, 2012)

Hausner Hard Chrome wins state award

Hausner Hard Chrome's Owensboro facility at 3094 Medley Road has earned the Environmental Sustainability Award from the Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center, a state resource center in the J.B. Speed School of Engineering at the University of Louisville. The hard chrome plating plant's Energy Team has been working with engineers at KPPC since 2010. Since then, the company has reduced its overall electricity costs, upgraded the plant's lighting and made improvements in its compressed air usage to reduce emissions. (Messenger-Inquirer – Sept. 30, 2012)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	10/4/2012	9/27/2012	9/21/2012	9/13/2012	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	3.663	3.733	3.781	3.869	3.261
Ashland	3.686	3.75	3.821	3.942	3/224
Covington	3.775	3.856	3.885	3.938	3.34
Lexington	3.700	3.808	3.79	3.952	3.222
Louisville	3.554	3.645	3.726	3.83	3.202
Owensboro	3.662	3.693	3.773	3.762	3.118
Diesel (State avg.)	3.998	4.014	4.051	4.065	3.755
Ashland	4.072	4.063	4.083	4.087	3.761
Covington	3.964	3.979	4.018	4.041	3.763
Lexington	3.991	4.01	4.055	4.082	3.753
Louisville	3.979	3.998	4.021	4.035	3.745
Owensboro	4.051	4.071	4.104	4.096	3.751

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	10/3/2012	9/26/2012	9/21/2012	9/12/2012	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	88.14	89.98	91.87	97.01	79.68
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	3.21	2.935	2.764	2.941	3.605

Source: the Wall Street Journal

Futures		12-Nov	12-Dec	13-Jan
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	10/3/2012	88.14	88.52	88.97
	9/26/2012	89.98	90.34	90.77
	9/21/2012	92.42	92.74	93.10
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	10/3/2012	3.95	3.663	3.806
	9/26/2012	3.215	3.488	3.638
	9/21/2012	2.962	3.25	3.402
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	10/3/2012	0.942	0.947	0.964
	9/26/2012	0.887	0.894	0.91
	9/21/2012	0.897	0.903	0.92
Coal (Dollars per ton) <i>Central Appalachian</i>	10/3/2012	54.08	54.53	59.71
	9/26/2012	53.93	54.58	58.92
	9/21/2012	53.72	54.17	58.77

Source: CME Group

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