

Kentucky Energy Watch

Department for Energy Development and Independence

A snapshot of state and national energy issues



Abramson says Kentucky needs to diversify its energy portfolio

Lieutenant Governor Jerry Abramson says it's necessary to balance energy production with environmental stewardship. Abramson delivered the keynote address during the Governor's Conference on Energy and the Environment. During his talk, Abramson touted Governor Steve Beshear's energy plan, which calls for a quarter of Kentucky's energy to come from renewable energy and efficiency measures by 2025. But Abramson also reminded conference-goers that there's often a lot about energy that's unpredictable. (WFPL News – Oct. 8, 2012)

Kentucky Science Center, LG&E and KU announce traveling energy outreach pro-

The Kentucky Science Center announced today an energy outreach program powered by Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company called Captain Current vs. The Electricity Vampires. The program, which includes a science show, hands-on activities and pre- and post-program materials about energy and energy efficiency, will be offered to schools and other assemblies throughout the state. "The Science Center continues to expand beyond Louisville to bring interactive science education to our state," said Science Center executive director Joanna Haas. "With support from LG&E and KU, we were able to create Captain Current vs. The Electricity Vampires, a self-sustaining, on-the-road program that will inspire our state to be better energy consumers." (KyForward – Oct. 5, 2012)

Louisville solar tour teaches homeowners how to go green

Cindy Brown Kinloch argues her house is a living creature. At least, she treats it like one – using old refrigerator glass as windows near the top of her roof to help heat and cool off her home with the help of passive solar energy. Her husband renovated the shotgun house in the Phoenix Hill area in the late 80s, now it's one of 30 homes on display during the Louisville Solar Tour. The tour in Louisville mirrored the National Solar Tour Saturday, an effort nationwide to point out the need for energy efficiency and conservation. (WDRB – Oct. 6, 2012)

UK chemistry alumni set world record in realm of energy efficiency

In a year that University of Kentucky teams have captured national titles, two UK alumni were part of another team that gained a world-record title — one that has the potential to impact everyone. UK alumni Joe Bullock and Kathy Woody are synthetic chemists at Phillips 66, a Houston-based company that manufactures energy products. Their team recently attained the world record for the most efficient polymer-based solar cells. Increasing the efficiency of these organic photovoltaic (OPV) cells could have enormous implications for the energy industry. (University of Kentucky News – Oct. 4, 2012)

Henderson students prep for Energy Awareness Day

Students from Henderson County elementary schools will participate in Energy Awareness Day on October 30, 2012 at KCTCS Henderson Community College Campus. The event targets 4th grade students and is modelled according to the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project guidelines. Students will participate in activities that make use of the NEED kits, program materials, and program facilitators. Crittenden, Union, and Webster County elementary schools are also invited to attend. (Surf KY News – Oct. 8, 2012)

Energy efficiency program available for KU customers

With cold weather right around the corner, Kentucky Utilities (KU) has many energy efficiency programs available to help customers save money. According to Darlene Long, business office manager for KU, there are two major factors contributing to monthly energy use. These are weather and individual energy use habits, she said. KU recently had an energy efficiency day at the Middlesboro office. (Middlesboro Daily News – Oct. 2, 2012)

Colder weather to boost heating costs versus last winter; oil users face highest bills ever

Americans will pay more to heat their homes this winter as they feel something they didn't feel much of last year: cold. Prices for natural gas, heating oil and other fuels will be relatively stable. But customers will have to use more energy to keep warm than they did a year ago, according to the annual Winter Fuels Outlook from the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration. Last winter was the warmest on record. This year temperatures are expected to be close to normal. Heating bills will rise 20 percent for heating oil customers, 15 percent for natural gas customers, 13 percent for propane customers and 5 percent for electricity customers, the EIA announced Wednesday. (The Washington Post – Oct. 10, 2012)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	10/11/2012	10/4/2012	9/27/2012	9/21/2012	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	3.736	3.663	3.733	3.781	3.303
Ashland	3.798	3.686	3.75	3.821	3.193
Covington	3.742	3.775	3.856	3.885	3.306
Lexington	3.724	3.700	3.808	3.79	3.326
Louisville	3.784	3.554	3.645	3.726	3.325
Owensboro	3.644	3.662	3.693	3.773	3.236
Diesel (State avg.)	4.039	3.998	4.014	4.051	3.732
Ashland	4.084	4.072	4.063	4.083	3.743
Covington	4.027	3.964	3.979	4.018	3.713
Lexington	4.051	3.991	4.01	4.055	3.739
Louisville	4.03	3.979	3.998	4.021	4.723
Owensboro	4.039	4.051	4.071	4.104	3.766

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	10/10/2012	10/3/2012	9/26/2012	9/21/2012	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	91.25	88.14	89.98	91.87	85.57
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	3.238	3.21	2.935	2.764	3.547

Source: the Wall Street Journal

Futures		12-Nov	12-Dec	13-Jan
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	10/10/2012	91.25	91.64	92.11
	10/3/2012	88.14	88.52	88.97
	9/26/2012	89.98	90.34	90.77
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	10/10/2012	3.475	3.783	3.923
	10/3/2012	3.95	3.663	3.806
	9/26/2012	3.215	3.488	3.638
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	10/10/2012	0.954	0.959	0.974
	10/3/2012	0.942	0.947	0.964
	9/26/2012	0.887	0.894	0.91
Coal (Dollars per ton) <i>Central Appalachian</i>	10/10/2012	53.52	54.3	60.07
	10/3/2012	54.08	54.53	59.71
	9/26/2012	53.93	54.58	58.92

Source: CME Group



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