

Kentucky Energy Watch

Department for Energy Development and Independence

A snapshot of state and national energy issues



Efficiencies put Grayson County schools in Energy STAR elite

Caneyville Elementary has joined the three other Grayson County elementary schools in receiving ENERGY STAR certification from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The school is the 200th Kentucky school to earn the ENERGY STAR label. ENERGY STAR designation recognizes schools for their efforts to lower energy costs by improving efficiencies in their buildings. It is part of a federal program that identifies education institutions that are among the top five percent in the nation for energy efficiency. While the number of Kentucky's ENERGY STAR school buildings has more than doubled over the last two years, it has just reached 200 with the addition of Caneyville, putting Grayson County elementaries in elite company. The middle and high schools are very close to meeting the threshold. (k105.com, February 22, 2013)

Kentucky Waste Hauler Announces 3 New Locations for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Filling Stations in Kentucky

Freedom Waste Service, LLC (FWS) installed the first CNG station in Princeton, Kentucky last year. Today, FWS announced the locations of 3 additional stations, in Paducah, Bowling Green, and Madisonville, Kentucky. The stations will be owned and operated by FWS. The stations will be available to new users of CNG as the newer cleaner technology is adopted. This use of CNG in Kentucky is significant in the struggle to become energy independent. The gas is cleaner burning, is produced in the USA, and provides local jobs and economic development opportunities. (American Banking & Markets News, March 2, 2013)

Labor Dept. grants \$5 million for Ky. coal

The U.S. Department of Labor has announced a \$5.2 million grant for out-of-work coal miners in eastern Kentucky. The grant will fund re-employment services for miners who have been laid off. A statement from the Labor Department Monday says the funding will also help spouses of coal miners in the region who are looking to re-enter the workforce. This grant was awarded to the Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program. The program will train out-of-work miners and spouses to work in other industries in the region including business services, construction and health care. (Herald Dispatch.com, March 4 2013)

Mining equipment company to lay off 150 in Millersburg

Mining equipment manufacturer Joy Global plans to close its Millersburg manufacturing operations, laying off 150 employees by October. It's another cut by the company as it copes with a struggling mining industry. Last year, the Milwaukee-based company announced layoffs of more than 80 employees at its Lebanon plant. "All of our sites are under review at present because we're experiencing a very significant shift in the Americas market," said Mark Finlay, vice president of marketing. "We've had a lot of closure of mining sites in and around that whole area." (Herald Leader, March 4, 2013)

Battery developer considers move to Lexington

A battery researcher and developer is considering moving its headquarters from New York to Lexington, a move that could bring as many as 162 jobs to the area. NOHMs Technologies began in October 2010 as a spinoff from Cornell University. On Thursday, the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority gave preliminary approval for \$2.1 million in tax incentives to lure the company's headquarters to Lexington. The company estimates that the move will cost \$5.37 million, according to state documents. (Herald Leader, March 1, 2013)

Ky. Chamber, other groups oppose smelter legislation

A coalition of three major Kentucky business and environmental groups came out Monday in opposition to using legislation to address the aluminum smelter power cost dilemma haunting Western Kentucky. The Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers and the Kentucky Resources Council on Monday "stressed that while the intent of the legislation may be laudable, the consequences for everyday consumers would be negative," according to a Kentucky Chamber news release. Instead, they urged Gov. Steve Beshear and other state agencies to craft incentives to help retain Century Aluminum's 700-employee Hawesville smelter and Rio Tinto Alcan's nearly 500-employee Sebree smelter, much as they would when recruiting new industries or helping other existing industries survive. (The Gleaner.com, March 4, 2013)

EPA names Kenton County School district 2013 ENERGY STAR® partner of the year

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recognized Kenton County School District as a 2013 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year for strategically managing and improving the energy efficiency of its entire building portfolio. Through its partnership with the ENERGY STAR program, Kenton County School District has improved its energy performance, saved money, and helped to protect the environment for future generations. "Managing our energy use in partnership with ENERGY STAR has significantly reduced our energy costs," said Rob Haney, Executive Director of Support Operations. "Making the district's buildings more energy efficient is one of the most effective ways for us to prevent pollution and save money, and we are honored to be recognized by EPA for our efforts." (Kenton.k12.ky.us March 6, 2013)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	3/7/2013	2/28/2013	2/21/2013	2/14/2013	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	3.65	3.774	3.797	3.621	3.658
Ashland	3.685	3.799	3.859	3.706	3.73
Covington	3.738	3.837	3.82	3.72	3.715
Lexington	3.635	3.825	3.776	3.666	3.647
Louisville	3.645	3.758	3.873	3.666	3.606
Owensboro	3.586	3.639	3.721	3.506	3.628
Diesel (State avg.)	4.06	4.103	4.117	4.086	4.006
Ashland	4.089	4.127	4.207	4.2	4.04
Covington	4.075	4.106	4.12	4.131	3.954
Lexington	4.098	4.12	4.13	4.103	4.013
Louisville	4.051	4.084	4.102	4.081	3.983
Owensboro	4.063	4.116	4.127	4.056	4.036

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,

Product	3/4/2013	2/25/2013	2/18/2013	2/11/2013	Year Ago
Heating Oil (dollars per gallon)	3.714	3.782	3.775	3.706	3.681
Propane (dollars per gallon)	2.177	2.194	2.198	2.197	2.584

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

Wholesale Fuel Prices

Spot Prices	3/6/2013	2/27/2013	2/20/2013	2/13/2013	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, job</i>	90.43	92.76	94.46	97.01	106.16
MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	3.573	3.535	3.335	3.293	2.233

Source: the Wall Street Journal

Futures		1-Apr	1-May	1-Jun
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	3/6/2013	90.43	90.9	91.3
	2/27/2013	92.76	93.15	93.52
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	3/6/2013	3.47	3.519	3.568
	2/27/2013	3.434	3.481	3.53
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Behieu (OPIS)</i>	3/6/2013	0.85	0.85	0.86
	2/27/2013	0.87	0.88	0.88
Coal (Dollars per ton) <i>Central Appalachian</i>	3/6/2013	58.87	59.07	59.2
	2/27/2013	59.5	59.5	59.5

Source: CME Group

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