

Garbage! Irvine landfill project keeping lights on by turning waste into electricity

The garbage can you place by the road for pick up each week may be providing the electricity you use to watch your favorite television show. At least, that's the case for the 51,000 people in the seven southeastern counties served by Jackson Energy. The electric cooperative is purchasing power produced by a landfill gas-to-energy project at the Blue Ridge Landfill near Irvine. (KY Forward, May 8, 2014)

Duke Energy abandons proposed wind turbine project

Duke Energy Renewables says a proposed wind turbine project in northeastern Kentucky is no longer planned. The Ledger Independent cited a letter from company executive Milton R. Howard that says the company has decided not to move forward with the proposal to build between 26 and 100 wind turbines in Mason and Fleming counties near the community of May's Lick. (Associated Press, May 12, 2014)

Coal production, coal employment slide in Eastern Kentucky in first quarter of 2014

Coal production edged up in Kentucky in the first three months of 2014, though there was a continued slide in tonnage and employment in the state's eastern coalfield. The statewide production total from Jan. 1 through March 31 was up 1.4 percent over the prior three months, returning to the black after a statewide decline of 11.6 percent in 2013. The Western Kentucky coalfield accounted for all of the increase. Production went up 5.9 percent in the western coalfield in the first quarter, while it dropped 3.5 percent in the east, according to the state Energy and Environment Cabinet. (Lexington Herald-Leader, May 13, 2014)

Patriot Coal complex in Ky. idled for repairs

Highland Mine complex near Henderson, Kentucky is being idled while repairs are made to a preparation plant damaged by a structural failure last week. Patriot Coal Corp. announced Monday that the complex was stopping all coal production and expects full production to be restored by June 30. Patriot said in a statement that limited production may resume earlier when sufficient repairs have been made to the preparation plant to resume partial coal processing operations. (BloombergBusinessWeek, May 13, 2014)

Dry spring leaves TVA up a creek in Tennessee

For the Tennessee Valley Authority, every inch of rain is worth more than \$10 million. With rainfall so far this year more than 4 inches below normal in the Tennessee Valley, TVA and its ratepayers will soon pay the price for all those sunny days this spring. The lack of rain in March and April — the driest spring since the year 2000 — also means three of TVA's 10 East Tennessee reservoirs will have lake levels this spring anywhere from 9 feet to 15 feet below normal summer levels. (Times Free Press, May 13, 2014)

TVA's Watts Bar Unit 2 is on track for 2015 power generation

The Tennessee Valley Authority is in the homestretch of building its newest nuclear reactor — and the first new nuclear unit to be built in three decades. On Tuesday, TVA officials led a tour of the Watts Bar Unit 2 construction site for Cleveland Utilities and city officials to get a rare glimpse of how a nuclear plant works from the inside out — and how one is built. (Times Free Press, May 14, 2014)

Senate deadlocked on energy bill, ending chances of a vote on Keystone

The Senate deadlocked Monday on a bipartisan energy bill, with Republicans mounting a filibuster that also is likely to end any near-term consideration of the Keystone XL pipeline proposal that has become a key issue in several critical elections. The vote Monday — 55 to 36, mostly along party lines — on a modest energy efficiency bill sponsored by Sens. Jean Shaheen (D-N.H.) and Rob Portman (R-Ohio) ended a long but sporadic attempt to approve legislation that has been ensnared by several controversial side issues amid Republican attempts to attach amendments. (Washington Post, May 12, 2014)

EQT to sell gas pipeline system to EQT Midstream subsidiary for \$1.18 billion

EQT Corp. will get \$1.18 billion to focus on gas drilling in the Appalachian Basin and newly acquired oil-and-gas-rich areas in Texas by selling a pipeline system to its subsidiary. The Downtown-based gas company announced after markets closed on Wednesday that EQT Midstream Partners, which the company spun off two years ago, would buy the Jupiter gathering system, 35 miles of pipes that collect gas from Marcellus shale wells in Greene and Washington counties. The company, which also authorized a repurchase of 1 million common shares, has not decided how to allocate the money from the sale. (TRIBLive News, April 30, 2014)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	5/15/2014	5/8/2014	5/1/2014	4/24/2014	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	\$ 3.68	\$ 3.70	\$ 3.69	\$ 3.73	\$ 3.53
Ashland	\$ 3.71	\$ 3.69	\$ 3.71	\$ 3.71	\$ 3.63
Covington	\$ 3.82	\$ 3.84	\$ 3.81	\$ 3.84	\$ 3.73
Lexington	\$ 3.71	\$ 3.74	\$ 3.65	\$ 3.74	\$ 3.50
Louisville	\$ 3.81	\$ 3.74	\$ 3.86	\$ 3.86	\$ 3.63
Owensboro	\$ 3.58	\$ 3.59	\$ 3.61	\$ 3.65	\$ 3.51
Diesel (State avg.)	\$ 3.97	\$ 3.99	\$ 4.01	\$ 4.02	\$ 3.92
Ashland	\$ 3.97	\$ 3.98	\$ 3.98	\$ 3.98	\$ 3.94
Covington	\$ 3.98	\$ 4.01	\$ 4.05	\$ 4.06	\$ 3.95
Lexington	\$ 4.01	\$ 4.03	\$ 4.05	\$ 4.07	\$ 3.95
Louisville	\$ 3.97	\$ 3.99	\$ 4.02	\$ 4.02	\$ 3.94
Owensboro	\$ 4.02	\$ 4.04	\$ 4.06	\$ 4.04	\$ 3.97

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,

Spot Prices	5/14/2014	5/8/2014	4/24/2014	4/24/2014	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, job</i>	\$ 100.89	\$ 99.74	\$ 101.13	\$ 104.35	\$ 93.95
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	\$ 4.52	\$ 4.57	\$ 4.71	\$ 4.70	\$ 3.90

Source: the Wall Street Journal

Futures		June 2014	July 2014	August 2014
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	5/14/2014	\$ 102.37	\$ 101.74	\$ 100.85
	5/5/2014	\$ 99.48	\$ 98.73	\$ 97.82
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	5/14/2014	\$ 4.37	\$ 4.37	\$ 4.37
	5/5/2014	\$ 4.69	\$ 4.72	\$ 4.71
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Behvieu (OPIS)</i>	5/14/2014	\$ 1.02	\$ 1.02	\$ 1.03
	5/5/2014	\$ 1.06	\$ 1.06	\$ 1.07
Coal (Dollars per ton) <i>Central Appalachian</i>	5/14/2014	\$ 63.43	\$ 64.37	\$ 65.28
	5/5/2014	\$ 63.50	\$ 64.00	\$ 64.38

Source: CME Group

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