

EPB gets \$7.4 million from TVA, funds part of program researching efficiency, smart grid technology

The Tennessee Valley Authority is giving the Glasgow Electric Plant Board \$7.43 million as an award in the Smart Energy Technology project. EPB Superintendent Billy Ray said Tuesday he learned of the award days ago but was sworn to secrecy until TVA announced it. TVA did so in a press release Tuesday afternoon, just in time for it to be shared with EPB's board of directors at its regular meeting that evening. (www.glasgowdailytimes.com April 28, 2015)

Students, Schools Recognized for Energy Projects

The Kentucky Department for Energy Development and Independence (DEDI) has announced that energy projects from five Kentucky school districts received top honors from the Kentucky National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project. Recipients in the elementary-level category were the Virginia Chance School of Louisville for School of the Year, and Lexington's Garden Springs Elementary for Rookie of the Year. (www.kentuckyagconnection.com April 30, 2015)

Benham\$aves program aimed at improving energy efficiency and reducing utility costs

Using energy more efficiently and saving money is the goal for homeowners in one Harlan County community. Benham Power Board officials unanimously approved the Benham\$aves program Friday. Now coordinators are busy doing their part to help customers make energy upgrades with no up-front costs. The Benham Power Board relies on a wholesale provider. (www.wkyt.com April 29, 2015)

East Kentucky Power Cooperative film documents decline of coal in Eastern Kentucky

A joint venture's plans for an ethane cracker plant in West Virginia has been paused. East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) and its 16 owner-member electric cooperatives have released a documentary film examining the effects of Eastern Kentucky's declining coal industry on the region's residents. The film, "The People At The End Of The Lines," documents the impacts on laid-off coal miners, local schools and people struggling to pay household bills. "These are real stories of real people facing real struggles, and there are no easy answers," said Tony Campbell, EKPC's president and CEO. (www.lanereport.com April 23, 2015)

This Kentucky Hydro-Power Dam Is A Beautiful Building Site

There's something serene about this panoramic view of the large scale construction site lit by the morning sun. The Smithland hydroelectric facility in Kentucky has been under construction since 2010-but as of this year it will generate 72 MW of new, renewable energy for the region. This hydropower dam will be about the 30th major dam in the state when completed later this year. These are the brief technical details of the Smithland hydro project according to the builders (www.gizmodo.in April 28, 2015)

Coal leaders tackle Kentucky's decline in mining jobs

Coal experts across the nation are meeting in Kentucky this week to talk about ways to save an industry on the decline. Numbers show employment in the coal industry is down in many parts of the state. The Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet's latest reports show a serious decline in coal production. Eastern Kentucky is hurting most. In the past seven years, their average employment numbers in the coal industry have dropped close to 50%, from more than 14,300 in 2008 to less than 7,300 in 2014. (www.wkyt.com April 27, 2015)

A legislative perspective

Long before Kentucky even became a state, it was becoming clear that we would have an outsized role in providing the energy our country needs. Coal's potential was discovered by early explorers in 1750, and the first commercial mine opened in what is now Lee County in 1790, two years before Kentucky joined the United States. Our contributions have only grown since then, of course. (www.floydcountytimes.com April 23, 2015)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	4/30/2015	4/23/2015	4/16/2015	4/9/2015	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	\$ 2.58	\$ 2.49	\$ 2.41	\$ 2.40	\$ 3.69
Ashland	\$ 2.57	\$ 2.42	\$ 2.39	\$ 2.32	\$ 3.72
Covington	\$ 2.56	\$ 2.53	\$ 2.49	\$ 2.54	\$ 3.81
Lexington	\$ 2.57	\$ 2.45	\$ 2.31	\$ 2.43	\$ 3.66
Louisville	\$ 2.62	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.53	\$ 2.56	\$ 3.77
Owensboro	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.31	\$ 2.19	\$ 2.21	\$ 3.61
Diesel (State avg.)	\$ 2.81	\$ 2.79	\$ 2.78	\$ 2.80	\$ 3.97
Ashland	\$ 2.72	\$ 2.71	\$ 2.72	\$ 2.76	\$ 3.98
Covington	\$ 2.77	\$ 2.79	\$ 2.81	\$ 2.83	\$ 4.06
Lexington	\$ 2.76	\$ 2.78	\$ 2.79	\$ 2.81	\$ 4.05
Louisville	\$ 2.71	\$ 2.72	\$ 2.73	\$ 2.76	\$ 4.01
Owensboro	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.69	\$ 2.68	\$ 2.72	\$ 4.05

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	4/29/2015	4/20/2015	4/16/2015	4/9/2015	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	\$ 55.56	\$ 55.58	\$ 51.95	\$ 52.08	\$ 100.07
MMBtu <i>Henry-Hub</i>	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.59	\$ 2.58	\$ 2.64	\$ 4.83
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Central Appalachia</i>	\$ 52.88	\$ 52.88	\$ 52.88	\$ 53.06	\$ 60.58
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Illinois Basin</i>	\$ 40.77	\$ 40.77	\$ 40.77	\$ 40.32	\$ 46.02

Sources: <https://www.quandl.com/#/c/markets/coal> http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pri_spt_s1_d.htm http://ycharts.com/indicators/natural_gas_spot_price

Futures		June 2015	July 2015	August 2015
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	4/29/2015	\$ 58.58	\$ 59.86	\$ 60.52
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	4/29/2015	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.66	\$ 2.68
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	4/29/2015	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.57

Source: CME Group



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