

Kentucky Department for Energy Development and Independence Energy Watch

A snapshot of state and national energy issues



Duke to Build Energy-Storage System at Shuttered Ohio Coal Plant

Duke Energy Corp., the largest U.S. utility owner by market value, agreed to build a battery-based energy-storage system at a shuttered coal plant in Ohio with LG Chem Ltd. and Greensmith Energy Management Systems LLC. (www.bloomberg.com May 26, 2015)

Critics Say Governor's Energy Program Will Hurt Consumers

"Worse than doing nothing" – that's how critics describe Indiana's new energy efficiency effort crafted by Governor Mike Pence and the General Assembly, but the governor insists the program will keep more money in Hoosiers' pockets. (<http://indianapublicmedia.org> May 26, 2015)

Murray, Alpha notify West Virginia coal miners of layoffs

More than 2,200 employees of coal mines in three states learned Friday they were losing their jobs as companies reacted to low prices and demand from the power sector that the government predicts will keep dropping. (<http://triblive.com> May 22, 2015)

Kemper woes mean likely credit downgrade for Miss. Power

The decision by a group of electrical cooperatives to pull out of the planned purchase of 15 percent of a Kemper County power plant is likely to mean a credit downgrade for Mississippi Power Co. (www.clarionledger.com May 22, 2015)

Solar energy heats up in Georgia

McClatchy-Tribune Content Agency, LLC - Mary Landers Savannah Morning News, Ga. From Augusta's Fort Gordon to beach homes on Tybee, solar energy is booming in Georgia. In Chatham, the Solarize program has flipped the switch on panels at four homes over the past few weeks and counts three more under construction. (www.renewablesbiz.com May 26, 2015)

EIA: 90 GW of coal retirements expected under EPA's Clean Power Plan

The federal government's Clean Power Plan will lead to the shuttering of about 90 GW of coal-fired production, more than twice the amount expected by 2040 without the new regulations, according to new estimates from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. (www.utilitydive.com May 26, 2015)

Kentucky Appeals Court Rules Natural Gas Liquids Pipelines Can't Use Eminent Domain

The Kentucky Court of Appeals on Friday upheld a lower court's decision that a natural gas liquids pipeline would not have the right of eminent domain in the commonwealth. The unanimous decision means that only utilities regulated by the Public Service Commission can invoke eminent domain in Kentucky. (<http://wfpl.org> May 22, 2015)

Americans using most renewable energy since 1930s

The last time Americans used as much renewable energy as they do now was in the 1930s, when the burning of wood was more widespread. (Tweet this) That's according to recent analysis by the U.S. Energy Information Administration, released on Thursday. (www.cnbc.com May 28, 2015)

The One Chart To Show You The Future Of Grid Energy Storage

The United States installed 5.8 megawatts of energy storage systems during the first quarter of this year, a 16% bump over the same period a year ago, according to a report released by GTM Research and Energy Storage Association on Wednesday. (www.forbes.com May 28, 2015)

Natural-gas supplies may hit an all-time high

Natural-gas supplies have a good chance of reaching a record high later this year, but that may not stop prices for the fuel from also hitting new highs for the year. Coal-burning power plants are shutting down or converting to natural gas because of federal environmental regulations, just as summer cooling demand is starting to kick in. (www.marketwatch.com May 28, 2015)

In a power shift, natural gas closes in on 'king coal'

In Pennsylvania when you flip on a light switch, odds are you're burning coal. But as the fracking boom continues to unlock huge quantities of natural gas, the electric grid is changing. Power plants are increasingly turning to this lower-cost, cleaner-burning fossil fuel. (<http://stateimpact.npr.org> May 28, 2015)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	5/28/2015	5/21/2015	5/14/2015	5/7/2015	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	\$ 2.74	\$ 2.73	\$ 2.68	\$ 2.65	\$ 3.65
Ashland	\$ 2.73	\$ 2.77	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.67	\$ 3.86
Covington	\$ 2.82	\$ 2.84	\$ 2.67	\$ 2.67	\$ 3.91
Lexington	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.76	\$ 2.66	\$ 2.52	\$ 3.80
Louisville	\$ 2.91	\$ 2.83	\$ 2.77	\$ 2.78	\$ 3.89
Owensboro	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.58	\$ 2.42	\$ 2.51	\$ 3.64
Diesel (State avg.)	\$ 2.89	\$ 2.88	\$ 2.86	\$ 2.84	\$ 3.92
Ashland	\$ 2.80	\$ 2.78	\$ 2.75	\$ 2.74	\$ 3.91
Covington	\$ 2.82	\$ 2.82	\$ 2.78	\$ 2.77	\$ 3.98
Lexington	\$ 2.81	\$ 2.81	\$ 2.78	\$ 2.77	\$ 3.99
Louisville	\$ 2.77	\$ 2.76	\$ 2.74	\$ 2.72	\$ 3.95
Owensboro	\$ 2.74	\$ 2.75	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.70	\$ 3.96

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	5/28/2015	5/21/2015	5/11/2015	5/7/2015	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	\$ 57.29	\$ 59.44	\$ 59.23	\$ 58.92	\$ 103.37
MMBtu <i>Henry-Hub</i>	\$ 2.82	\$ 3.01	\$ 2.85	\$ 2.72	\$ 4.40
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Central Appalachia</i>	\$ 52.85	\$ 52.85	\$ 52.85	\$ 52.85	\$ 60.70
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Illinois Basin</i>	\$ 40.45	\$ 40.45	\$ 40.45	\$ 40.45	\$ 46.00

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		July 2015	August 2015	September 2015
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	5/27/2015	\$ 57.51	\$ 57.86	\$ 58.04
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	5/27/2015	\$ 2.85	\$ 2.87	\$ 2.87
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	5/27/2015	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.45

Source: CME Group



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