

Four Knox County schools earn Energy Star status

The Knox County Board of Education met Tuesday evening for their regular board meeting where they received Energy Star status at four schools within the district. Dewitt Elementary, G.R. Hampton Elementary, Flat Lick Elementary and Jesse D. Lay Elementary were all recognized as Energy Star certified buildings. (www.ksba.org September 23, 2015)

Blackhawk Says It's Winning Bidder of Patriot Coal Assets

Blackhawk Mining LLC said it's the winning bidder in a bankruptcy auction for most of Patriot Coal Corp.'s assets. Patriot in May selected Lexington, Kentucky-based Blackhawk as the so-called stalking horse in an auction to set a benchmark price for most of the bankrupt producer's assets. (www.bloomberg.com September 22, 2015)

Half of Owensboro's Coal-Fired Power Plant Will Retire By 2021

Another of Kentucky's coal-fired power units will be shut down in the next few years, further reducing the state's carbon dioxide emissions. Owensboro Municipal Utilities announced last week that it plans to shut down Unit 1 of the Elmer Smith Power Plant sometime between 2019 and 2021. (<http://wfpl.org> September 22, 2015)

State rep. and energy czar make pitch to lift nuclear plant moratorium

Building on his work to have Kentucky lift a decades-old moratorium on nuclear-power facilities, state Rep. Gerald Watkins appeared before a legislative committee today to discuss the issue and lay the groundwork for making his plan law during the 2016 Regular Session. Energy and Environment Cabinet Secretary Len Peters joined with him in support. (www.wbko.com September 17, 2015)

Fort Campbell unveils first phase in solar project

Fort Campbell's solar array project is one step closer to completion. Officials at the post unveiled phase 1 of the project at a ribbon-cutting ceremony Monday. The project broke ground in May and will power 463 homes at Fort Campbell when phase 2 is completed by mid-2016. (www.theleafchronicle.com September 21, 2015)

Kentucky's utilities delivering more energy with less emissions, but significant challenges remain

The nation's energy sector is renowned for innovative solutions; pioneering complex equipment for instantaneous power delivery and revolutionizing the industry, time and again. Utilities are delivering power more safely, reliably and cleaner than ever before. (<http://lge-ky.com> September 17, 2015)

Coal mine starts continue to decline

The number of new and reactivated coal mines that began production in 2013 fell to the lowest level in at least the past 10 years. The addition of 103 mines in 2013 came as 271 mines were idled or closed, resulting in a 14% decline in the total number of producing coal mines from 2012 to 2013. (www.eia.gov September 23, 2015)

A good rate design is hard to find: Experts push utility-solar compromise

Conventional knowledge is that the utility industry is slow-moving and resistant to change. But when it comes to reforming their rate designs, power companies have been quick to propose changes to make up for revenue lost to rooftop solar and other distributed resources. (www.utilitydive.com September 21, 2015)

U.S. propane inventories are at an all-time high

U.S. inventories of propane and propylene reached 97.7 million barrels as of September 11, the highest level in the 22 years that EIA has collected weekly propane inventory statistics. In the first six months of 2015, U.S. propane and propylene inventories were 24.3 million barrels higher on average compared to the same period in 2014. (www.eia.gov September 21, 2015)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	9/24/2015	9/17/2015	9/10/2015	9/3/2015	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	\$ 2.29	\$ 2.30	\$ 2.37	\$ 2.44	\$ 3.34
Ashland	\$ 2.33	\$ 2.22	\$ 2.31	\$ 2.36	\$ 3.46
Covington	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.44	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.59	\$ 3.51
Lexington	\$ 2.41	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.22	\$ 2.32	\$ 3.36
Louisville	\$ 2.53	\$ 2.41	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.48	\$ 3.52
Owensboro	\$ 2.09	\$ 2.12	\$ 2.19	\$ 2.26	\$ 3.23
Diesel (State avg.)	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.55	\$ 2.57	\$ 3.75
Ashland	\$ 2.41	\$ 2.42	\$ 2.44	\$ 2.46	\$ 3.60
Covington	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.54	\$ 2.55	\$ 2.56	\$ 3.75
Lexington	\$ 2.55	\$ 2.56	\$ 2.59	\$ 2.59	\$ 3.69
Louisville	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.54	\$ 2.55	\$ 3.72
Owensboro	\$ 2.37	\$ 2.37	\$ 2.38	\$ 2.41	\$ 3.75

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	9/21/2015	9/14/2015	9/8/2015	8/31/2015	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	\$ 46.67	\$ 44.07	\$ 45.92	\$ 49.20	\$ 93.60
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.74	\$ 2.70	\$ 3.99
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Central Appalachia</i>	\$ 48.65	\$ 48.60	\$ 48.60	\$ 48.60	\$ 54.59
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Illinois Basin</i>	\$ 34.35	\$ 34.35	\$ 34.35	\$ 34.35	\$ 43.40

Sources: <http://www.infomine.com/investment/metal-prices/coal/1-year> http://ycharts.com/indicators/natural_gas_spot_price <https://www.quandl.com/data/DOE/COAL-US-Coal-Prices-by-Region> <http://markets.ft.com/research/Markets/>

Futures		November 2015	December 2015	January 2016
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	9/24/2015	\$ 44.48	\$ 45.10	\$ 45.82
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	9/24/2015	\$ 2.64	\$ 2.79	\$ 2.91
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	9/24/2015	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.49	\$ 0.49

Source: http://www.cmegroup.com/daily_bulletin/current/Section61_Energy_Futures_Products.pdf



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