

Kentucky Department for Energy Development and Independence Energy Watch

A snapshot of state and national energy issues

George Rogers Clark High School certified ENERGY STAR

George Rogers Clark (GRC) High School has earned the Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR certification, a national symbol for protecting the environment through superior energy performance, the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet has announced today. (www.lanereport.com October 21, 2015)

Higher Bills Coming for Some JPEC Members

Most commercial customers of Jackson Purchase Energy are bracing for an increase in their monthly payment to the utility, beginning with their next bill. In a letter sent this month, the utility explained that their rates are not changing - in fact, they've been the same since April 2014. (www.westkentuckystar.com October 21, 2015)

Coal ash rules take effect today, nearly 7 years after TVA spill at Kingston

The gooey, grayish-black sludge that spread across Roane County on a bitterly cold December morning is gone, but the fallout from the nation's worst coal-ash spill enters a new phase on Monday when the federal government begins regulating the storage and disposal of ash from coal-fired power plants. (www.timesfreepress.com October 19, 2015)

CSX abruptly closes rail shops in Corbin citing coal decline

About 180 CSX employees will be furloughed or relocated after the company abruptly closed its Corbin rail shops. The Times-Tribune reports the company closed its locomotive shop, locomotive service center and car shop Tuesday morning. (www.wbko.com October 20, 2015)

Debate over Ohio's energy mandates is heavy on opinions, light on research

As Ohio lawmakers debate a halt to the state's energy mandates, there's one thing they are lacking: independent forecasts about how the standards would impact ratepayers and the state economy. The fate of Ohio's renewable-energy and energy-efficiency standards could decide the future of the state's nascent wind and solar industries and affect residents' utility bills for years to come. (www.cleveland.com October 16, 2015)

Should you buy energy-efficient appliances sooner or later?

The average U.S. family spends about \$2,200 each year for energy costs, and the use of large appliances accounts for a hefty chunk of that total, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. That means families can save money by replacing old appliances with newer, more energy-efficient models, says Kateri Callahan, president of the Alliance to Save Energy, a nonprofit coalition that promotes energy efficiency. (www.bankrate.com October 21, 2015)

Does Daylight Saving Time Save Energy? The Answer Depends On Who You Ask

Daylight Saving Time (DST) is almost over for the year. Come 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 1, clocks around the country will move back one hour. Just Hawaii and a majority of Arizona (save for the Navajo Nation) don't observe DST, which is relatively unsurprising given just how sunny the two states are. (www.bustle.com October 21, 2015)

Pa. regulators caught unprepared for natural gas 'mother lode'

In 2005, Pennsylvania issued 19 permits for shale drilling. By 2010, that number reached 3,400 — a nearly 18,000 percent increase. "I don't think many people were aware that it existed at all," said Scott Perry, who currently leads the Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Oil and Gas Management. (www.pennlive.com October 21, 2015)

Obama Defies Dems, Approves Natural Gas Exports

The Department of Energy gave final approval for a Palm Beach, Fla. natural gas export terminal to send U.S. gas abroad after studies determined the terminal wouldn't significantly impact the environment. (<http://dailycaller.com> October 20, 2015)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	10/22/2015	10/15/2015	10/8/2015	10/2/2015	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	\$ 2.22	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.31	\$ 2.29	\$ 3.09
Ashland	\$ 2.28	\$ 2.38	\$ 2.38	\$ 2.31	\$ 3.08
Covington	\$ 2.42	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.47	\$ 2.43	\$ 3.17
Lexington	\$ 2.09	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.29	\$ 2.87
Louisville	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.44	\$ 2.43	\$ 3.19
Owensboro	\$ 2.06	\$ 2.22	\$ 2.25	\$ 2.27	\$ 2.84
Diesel (State avg.)	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.55	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.49	\$ 3.63
Ashland	\$ 2.57	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.38	\$ 3.54
Covington	\$ 2.69	\$ 2.67	\$ 2.57	\$ 2.51	\$ 3.63
Lexington	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.56	\$ 2.54	\$ 3.60
Louisville	\$ 2.59	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.54	\$ 3.65
Owensboro	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.41	\$ 2.37	\$ 3.59

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	10/19/2015	10/12/2015	10/5/2015	Year Ago
Heating Oil (dollars per gallon)	\$ 2.27	\$ 2.33	\$ 2.22	\$ 3.30
Propane (dollars per gallon)	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.62	\$ 1.57	\$ 2.22

http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pri_wfr_dcus_SKY_w.htm

Spot Prices	10/19/2015	10/12/2015	10/5/2015	9/29/2015	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	\$ 45.91	\$ 46.28	\$ 46.28	\$ 44.40	\$ 80.52
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	\$ 2.43	\$ 2.47	\$ 2.57	\$ 2.66	\$ 3.73
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Central Appalachia</i>	\$ 49.00	\$ 48.15	\$ 48.15	\$ 48.65	\$ 56.30
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Illinois Basin</i>	\$ 32.75	\$ 32.75	\$ 32.75	\$ 34.35	\$ 44.70

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/Tearsheets/Summary?s=1069936>

Futures		November 2015	December 2015	January 2016
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	10/21/2015	\$ 45.55	\$ 45.20	\$ 45.92
	10/14/2015	\$ 46.66	\$ 47.15	\$ 47.90
	10/7/2015	\$ 47.81	\$ 48.40	\$ 49.13
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	10/21/2015	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.75
	10/14/2015	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.72	\$ 2.86
	10/7/2015	\$ 2.47	\$ 2.68	\$ 2.81
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	10/21/2015	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.44
	10/14/2015	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.47
	10/7/2015	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.51

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

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