

Utility withdraws power plant proposal

Citing the moves by nine Kentucky municipal power providers to stop buying electricity from Kentucky Utilities, LG&E and KU Energy said Tuesday it was withdrawing its proposal to build a large natural gas power plant in Muhlenberg County. Without the municipals, LG&E and KU won't need to generate all of the 700 megawatts that the \$700 million power plant was expected to supply, company officials said. (www.courier-journal.com Aug. 12, 2014)

U.S. Department of Education to tour five Central Kentucky schools

Representatives of the U.S. Department of Education are coming to central Kentucky Aug. 20-21 to tour five schools that have achieved the national Green Ribbon Schools designation for their environmental efforts. The schools on the tour are Northern Elementary and Georgetown Middle schools in Georgetown and Rosa Parks Elementary, Wellington Elementary and Locust Trace AgriScience Farm in Lexington. The tour is open to the public. (www.lanereport.com Aug. 7, 2014)

City-Run Gas Station Makes Waves In Southeastern Kentucky

After years of complaints about high gas prices in Somerset, Ky., the city council and mayor did something about it. Last month, Somerset began selling gasoline to the public. "It should have been this way years ago — fair," says Bob Thomas as he fills up his green pickup truck at the municipal Somerset Fuel Center. The price is \$3.36 a gallon, lower than the statewide average. Somerset Mayor Eddie Girdler oversaw the project. (www.kpbs.org Aug. 13 2014)

Mississippi Power unopposed to net metering, eyes 100 MW RE procurement

Mississippi Power, the state utility provider for Mississippi that is owned by Southern Company, has announced that it is unopposed to net metering rules for residential solar systems that are set to be introduced by the state's Public Service Commission. A utility representative confirmed that the company has begun evaluating the benefits of renewable power as it seeks to extricate itself from the lower order of U.S. states' adoption of renewable energy. (www.pv-magazine.com Aug. 11, 2014)

Gov. Beshear announces \$3 million in Congestion Mitigation funds to projects in Jefferson County

Governor Steve Beshear and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) officials today announced more than \$3 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for three projects in Jefferson County to improve safety and air quality in one of the busiest areas of the Commonwealth. (<http://kentuckycleanfuels.org> Aug. 7, 2014)

Gov. Beshear announces \$1.25 million in Congestion Mitigation funds to Lexington-Fayette Urban County Govern-

Governor Steve Beshear and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) officials today announced the award of more than \$1.2 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government to improve safety and air quality in Kentucky's second-largest city. The funding will help the local government construct a compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station for vehicles powered by the cleaner-burning fuel. "To have a healthy Commonwealth, we must have clean air," Gov. Beshear said. "CMAQ funding helps us in working toward that goal." (<http://kentuckycleanfuels.org> Aug. 7, 2014)

Lextran receives \$2.5 million in CMAQ grant

Gov. Steve Beshear and officials from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) last week announced the award of \$2,501,591 in a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant to Lextran, to improve safety and air quality. The funding received by Lextran will be used in the purchase of seven cleaner-burning, compressed natural gas (CNG) buses. "We have been striving to move towards compressed natural gas for quite some time now," said Lextran General Manager Rocky Burke. "CNG buses are cleaner burning and provide for lower fuel costs." (www.lanereport.com Aug. 11, 2014)

If There's a 'War on Coal,' It Started Long Before President Obama

Why do we keep talking about a "War on Coal?" Over the past few years, as economic realities have become grimmer in Kentucky's coal industry, talking about this "war" has become common parlance for the commonwealth's politicians—both for Republicans, and for Democrats (including McConnell's opponent, Alison Lundergan Grimes) who want to distance themselves from President Barack Obama's unpopularity. It's true: there are fewer coal miners in Kentucky now than any other year since the state began keeping track in 1927. But a look at the data shows how difficult it is to blame fluctuations in markets—especially for natural resources—on any one leader. (<http://wfpl.org> Aug. 7, 2014)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	8/14/2014	8/7/2014	7/31/2014	7/24/2014	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	\$ 3.47	\$ 3.48	\$ 3.52	\$ 3.55	\$ 3.54
Ashland	\$ 3.47	\$ 3.45	\$ 3.55	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.44
Covington	\$ 3.64	\$ 3.60	\$ 3.68	\$ 3.67	\$ 3.57
Lexington	\$ 3.45	\$ 3.42	\$ 3.51	\$ 3.35	\$ 3.39
Louisville	\$ 3.64	\$ 3.52	\$ 3.74	\$ 3.65	\$ 3.49
Owensboro	\$ 3.31	\$ 3.30	\$ 3.33	\$ 3.35	\$ 3.30
Diesel (State avg.)	\$ 3.82	\$ 3.83	\$ 3.84	\$ 3.86	\$ 3.87
Ashland	\$ 3.70	\$ 3.69	\$ 3.71	\$ 3.74	\$ 3.89
Covington	\$ 3.82	\$ 3.82	\$ 3.84	\$ 3.83	\$ 3.87
Lexington	\$ 3.78	\$ 3.79	\$ 3.82	\$ 3.84	\$ 3.91
Louisville	\$ 3.80	\$ 3.81	\$ 3.81	\$ 3.83	\$ 3.85
Owensboro	\$ 3.79	\$ 3.80	\$ 3.82	\$ 3.85	\$ 3.86

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	8/11/2014	8/4/2014	7/28/2014	7/21/2014	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, job</i>	\$ 98.09	\$ 98.26	\$ 105.68	\$ 105.34	\$ 106.89
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	\$ 4.00	\$ 3.87	\$ 3.84	\$ 3.87	\$ 3.32

Source: the Wall Street Journal

Futures		September 2014	October 2014	November 2014
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	8/13/2014	\$ 97.59	\$ 96.74	\$ 96.28
	8/6/2014	\$ 96.92	\$ 96.24	\$ 95.84
	7/30/2014	\$ 100.27	\$ 99.04	\$ 98.24
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	8/13/2014	\$ 3.83	\$ 3.86	\$ 3.94
	8/6/2014	\$ 3.93	\$ 3.96	\$ 4.02
	7/30/2014	\$ 3.79	\$ 3.81	\$ 3.86
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Behvieu (OPIS)</i>	8/13/2014	\$ 1.04	\$ 1.05	\$ 1.06
	8/6/2014	\$ 1.02	\$ 1.03	\$ 1.04
	7/30/2014	\$ 1.04	\$ 1.05	\$ 1.06
Coal (Dollars per ton) <i>Central Appalachian</i>	8/13/2014	\$ 59.95	\$ 59.75	\$ 59.75
	8/6/2014	\$ 60.10	\$ 59.65	\$ 59.65
	7/30/2014	\$ 59.95	\$ 59.45	\$ 59.45

Source: CME Group



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