

Straub Elementary School certified ENERGY STAR

The Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet announced that Straub Elementary School in Mason County has earned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) ENERGY STAR certification, which signifies the school building performs in the top 25 percent of similar facilities nationwide for energy efficiency. (www.lanereport.com August 11, 2015)

City eyes ways to save electricity

To keep the lights on, the water flowing, the Lawrenceburg City Council shells out approximately \$750,000. That might soon change. Council members are now in the early stages of considering entering into an energy savings performance contract that would, they hope, provide ways to lower the city's electric bill. (www.theandersonnews.com August 5, 2015)

New TVA Watts Bar nuclear reactor passes hot functional tests

The Tennessee Valley Authority has successfully completed its testing of key operating equipment for its Watts Bar Unit 2 nuclear reactor, clearing the way for additional tests of safety and containment systems before fuel is scheduled to be loaded in the new reactor this fall. TVA said today that the latest round of tests, called hot functional testing, demonstrated equipment performed as designed and marks the first time nearly 60 important systems operated together. (www.timesfreepress.com August 11, 2015)

President Signs Law Giving Tax Help for LNG Used in Vehicles

Natural gas vehicle (NGV) advocates were delivered a long-sought tax change Monday in legislation signed by President Obama that includes a provision equalizing the impact of an excise tax on liquefied natural gas (LNG) used in transportation. The tax will be assessed on an energy equivalent basis with diesel fuel. (www.naturalgasintel.com August 10, 2015)

Natural Gas Drillers Can't Catch a Break

Natural gas drillers who flocked to liquids-rich basins in search of better profits just can't seem to catch a break. Seven years ago, as shale output surged and gas futures tumbled more than 60 percent, producers abandoned reservoirs that only yielded gas and moved rigs to wells that also contained ethane, propane and other so-called natural gas liquids, or NGLs. (www.bloomberg.com August 11, 2015)

Coal Revival Seen Fading as India's Rising Output Trims Imports

India's surging coal output is dealing a blow to chances of a revival in global prices as the third-biggest consumer looks to dramatically reduce overseas purchases. Coal India Ltd., the country's monopoly miner and the world's largest producer, supplied 156.15 million metric tons in the four months ended July 31, a 10.5 percent boost compared with the previous year and more than double the increase for the same period in 2014. (www.bloomberg.com August 12, 2015)

Breakdown at Indiana Refinery Sends Midwest Gas Prices Soaring

For want of a refinery unit in Indiana, oil is tumbling in Oklahoma and Alberta while gasoline in the Midwest is soaring. Leaking tubes on a piece of equipment forced BP Plc to shut the largest crude unit at its refinery near Chicago over the weekend, according to a person familiar with operations there. It could be down for at least a month. (www.bloomberg.com August 12, 2015)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	8/13/2015	8/6/2015	7/30/2015	7/23/2015	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	\$ 2.62	\$ 2.62	\$ 2.67	\$ 2.74	\$ 3.47
Ashland	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.44	\$ 2.60	\$ 3.46
Covington	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.69	\$ 2.85	\$ 3.62
Lexington	\$ 2.39	\$ 2.31	\$ 2.39	\$ 2.53	\$ 3.41
Louisville	\$ 2.55	\$ 2.45	\$ 2.48	\$ 2.64	\$ 3.67
Owensboro	\$ 2.48	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.42	\$ 2.48	\$ 3.28
Diesel (State avg.)	\$ 2.66	\$ 2.71	\$ 2.75	\$ 2.79	\$ 3.83
Ashland	\$ 2.59	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.68	\$ 3.71
Covington	\$ 2.62	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.68	\$ 2.70	\$ 3.83
Lexington	\$ 2.64	\$ 2.65	\$ 2.68	\$ 2.71	\$ 3.79
Louisville	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.62	\$ 2.64	\$ 2.67	\$ 3.80
Owensboro	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.55	\$ 2.58	\$ 2.64	\$ 3.79

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	8/10/2015	8/3/2015	7/27/2015	7/20/2015	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	\$ 44.94	\$ 45.25	\$ 47.17	\$ 50.11	\$ 98.09
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	\$ 2.85	\$ 2.76	\$ 2.92	\$ 2.88	\$ 3.94
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Central Appalachia</i>	\$ 49.95	\$ 54.90	\$ 54.90	\$ 54.90	\$ 56.35
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Illinois Basin</i>	\$ 34.35	\$ 34.35	\$ 34.35	\$ 34.35	\$ 44.00

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		September 2015	October 2015	November 2015
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	8/12/2015	\$ 43.30	\$ 44.01	\$ 45.04
	8/5/2015	\$ 45.15	\$ 45.55	\$ 46.18
	7/29/2015	\$ 48.79	\$ 49.16	\$ 49.72
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	8/12/2015	\$ 2.93	\$ 2.96	\$ 3.05
	8/5/2015	\$ 2.81	\$ 2.82	\$ 2.91
	7/29/2015	\$ 2.86	\$ 2.88	\$ 3.00
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	8/12/2015	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.42
	8/5/2015	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.42
	7/29/2015	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.44

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



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