

Kentucky Department for Energy Development and Independence Energy Watch

A snapshot of state and national energy issues

Coal industry's swift, steep drop continues in Eastern Kentucky

The latest report on coal production and employment in Kentucky reinforces how far and fast the industry has fallen. In the third quarter of 2011, employment at Kentucky coal mines and preparation plants averaged 18,812 people. (www.kentucky.com November 4, 2015)

County, state officials recognize Bioenergy Day

Two local locations that harness the power of bioenergy were toured and recognized on Wednesday by local and state officials. Wednesday, Oct. 21, was the third annual National Bioenergy Day, said Tim Hughes, director of the Division of Biofuels at the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet. (www.cknj.com October 26, 2015)

Despite recent closures, U.S. nuclear capacity is scheduled to increase by 2020

Despite the scheduled closure of more than 2,000 megawatts (MW) of nuclear generating capacity by 2019, scheduled additions of more than 5,000 MW of capacity between 2016 and 2020 could result in a net increase in total U.S. nuclear capacity. (www.eia.gov November 2, 2015)

How Walmart Became A Green Energy Giant, Using Other People's Money

The roof of the Wal-Mart in Mountain View, Calif. is covered with solar panels. Depending on the time of day they provide 15% of the power needed to run the store. Last year President Barack Obama stopped by here to give a speech about his energy plan. (www.forbes.com November 4, 2015)

Coal talk fades nationally, but not in WV

There are 18 candidates currently running for president who have participated in the presidential debates this year. Over the course of the seven debates, those candidates have substantively discussed coal a grand total of zero times. Coal, still the dominant political issue in West Virginia, has been nearly entirely absent from the debates and the presidential campaign. (www.wvgazette.com October 31, 2015)

West Virginia governor will submit plan to comply with Clean Power Plan

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin intends to submit a state plan for West Virginia to cut greenhouse gas emissions in compliance with the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan, bucking calls from state and national Republicans to ignore the environmental regulations. (www.energybiz.com November 3, 2015)

Natural gas losing its shine as Asia holds faith in coal power

The shine is coming off once bright prospects for natural gas as the future fossil fuel of choice in Asia as power companies in India and Southeast Asia tap abundant and cheap domestic coal resources to generate electricity. (www.reuters.com November 3, 2015)

TransCanada Suspends Request for Permit to Build Keystone Pipeline

The company seeking to build the Keystone XL oil pipeline asked the Obama administration on Monday to suspend its yearslong review of the project, potentially bringing an abrupt halt to a politically charged debate that had become part of a broader struggle over President Obama's environmental policies. (www.nytimes.com November 3, 2015)

DuPont Opens 'World's Largest' Cellulosic Ethanol Plant

DuPont has opened its cellulosic biofuel facility in Nevada, Iowa. The company says this biorefinery is the world's largest cellulosic ethanol plant, with the capacity to produce 30 million gallons per year of clean fuel that offers a 90 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions as compared to gasoline. (www.environmentalleader.com October 30, 2015)

Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	11/5/2015	10/29/2015	10/22/2015	10/15/2015	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	\$ 2.21	\$ 2.19	\$ 2.22	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.96
Ashland	\$ 2.24	\$ 2.18	\$ 2.28	\$ 2.38	\$ 3.01
Covington	\$ 2.35	\$ 2.30	\$ 2.42	\$ 2.50	\$ 3.13
Lexington	\$ 2.21	\$ 2.22	\$ 2.09	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.86
Louisville	\$ 2.30	\$ 2.24	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.98
Owensboro	\$ 2.11	\$ 1.98	\$ 2.06	\$ 2.22	\$ 2.80
Diesel (State avg.)	\$ 2.49	\$ 2.49	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.55	\$ 3.60
Ashland	\$ 2.53	\$ 2.54	\$ 2.57	\$ 2.63	\$ 3.59
Covington	\$ 2.64	\$ 2.64	\$ 2.69	\$ 2.67	\$ 3.65
Lexington	\$ 2.59	\$ 2.59	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.63	\$ 3.60
Louisville	\$ 2.56	\$ 2.58	\$ 2.59	\$ 2.61	\$ 3.65
Owensboro	\$ 2.48	\$ 2.45	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.50	\$ 3.67

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	11/2/2015	10/26/2015	10/19/2015	10/12/2015	Year Ago
Heating Oil (dollars per gallon)	\$ 2.17	\$ 2.16	\$ 2.27	\$ 2.33	\$ 3.41
Propane (dollars per gallon)	\$ 1.66	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.62	\$ 2.22

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

Spot Prices	11/4/2015	10/26/2015	10/19/2015	10/12/2015	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	\$ 46.12	\$ 43.19	\$ 45.91	\$ 46.28	\$ 78.77
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.18	\$ 2.43	\$ 2.47	\$ 3.60
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Central Appalachia</i>	\$ 49.00	\$ 49.00	\$ 49.00	\$ 48.15	\$ 56.30
Coal Price (dollars per short ton) <i>Illinois Basin</i>	\$ 32.75	\$ 32.75	\$ 32.75	\$ 32.75	\$ 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		December 2015	January 2016	February 2016
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	11/4/2015	\$ 46.32	\$ 47.21	\$ 47.99
	10/28/2015	\$ 45.94	\$ 46.82	\$ 47.60
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	11/4/2015	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.45	\$ 2.47
	10/28/2015	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.49	\$ 2.47
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	11/4/2015	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.47
	10/28/2015	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.45

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

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