



Kentucky Sustainable
Energy Alliance

Frequently Asked Questions

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Energy Efficiency Goal

Meet 10.25% of statewide electricity use through new energy efficiency savings by 2021.

Renewable Energy Goal

Increase Kentucky's use of clean, renewable electricity sources to 12.5% in 2021.

1. Why should Kentucky transition to cleaner energy?

Kentucky's electricity rates have risen 47% on average over the last 5 years and will continue to rise. Clean energy policies like the "Clean Energy Opportunity Act," are the cheapest way to lower energy costs for ratepayers. They will put Kentucky on a path to bringing thousands of new jobs and more contracts and venture capital investments to our state's economy.

2. Won't renewables be expensive and cost ratepayers more?

Solar energy prices have dropped 33 percent over the past 3 years and will continue to decrease. Sun and wind are free, removing the cost of fuel from the expense of running a solar or wind power plant. Energy efficiency costs up to four times less than traditional energy and is the cheapest and fastest option to address electricity needs today. By boosting efficiency *and* renewable energy, a clean energy policy will actually lower costs for ratepayers.

3. Does Kentucky have the clean energy resources to reduce our dependence on coal?

Kentucky has plenty of in-state clean energy potential. More clean energy solutions like energy efficiency, solar and hydroelectric will diversify our energy sources and provide more reliable and lower cost energy. Clean energy policies and incentives similar to those in the majority of US states will tap into Kentucky's existing renewable energy supply and create needed jobs. Increasing energy efficiency alone will save Kentuckians from building new power plants that cost \$6.8 billion and help families living in older, inefficient homes manage costs.



KySEA Energy Policy Principles

Make **energy efficiency** Kentucky's top energy priority.

Promote the production of **clean, renewable energy** and increase the share of our energy that comes from it.

Create **new jobs** and opportunities in the clean energy sector.

Enable **all residents and businesses** to take **advantage** of these energy solutions.

4. What is a feed-in tariff?

A feed-in tariff (FIT) accelerates investment in renewable energy technologies by offering long-term contracts to renewable energy producers, typically based on the actual electric generation costs of each technology (e.g. solar and wind). Under the proposed bill, the KY Public Service Commission will set the FITs as equal to the cost of renewable electricity production plus a reasonable rate of return. This means in-state renewable energy producers would know in advance how much Kentucky utility companies would pay for the clean energy power they produce. Under the bill, utilities would be able to recover all costs associated with implementing FITs.

5. Will the Clean Energy Opportunities Act put my family member, who works for the coal industry, out of a job?

This bill will boost Kentucky's energy industry and create new jobs in manufacturing, heating, air conditioning, retail, construction and more. Your family member would be presented with more options in Kentucky's new energy economy that can build skills and offer a prosperous career path. Studies show clean energy jobs and businesses in Kentucky grow faster than U.S. jobs overall and are expected to grow at a faster rate than traditional employment in the next two years.

6. How can a clean energy policy improve health in Kentucky?

There are 539 heart attacks, 286 hospitalizations and 412 deaths each year due to power plant pollution. Research shows that clean energy and energy efficiency prevent needless health problems by reducing pollution, leading to fewer cases of asthma and heart attacks. Studies also show that people who live in less drafty, more efficient homes are healthier. Under this policy, a state energy efficiency program to add insulation to homes would result in four-fold reduction in disease burden and prevent premature deaths.