

Kentucky Sustainable Energy Alliance



Family Combines Energy Efficiency with Solar Energy to Meet All Electric Needs

This Franklin County family renovated their farmhouse in 2007 and cut their energy bills 60% through energy efficiency measures. They then installed a solar water heater and solar electric system, which now meet all of their annual electric needs. "This was the best investment I've ever made," said the homeowner and single mother of three. "I don't have to worry about electric bills anymore and now my children know that they have better alternatives, too."

Clean Energy in Kentucky Affordable, Sustainable and Achievable!

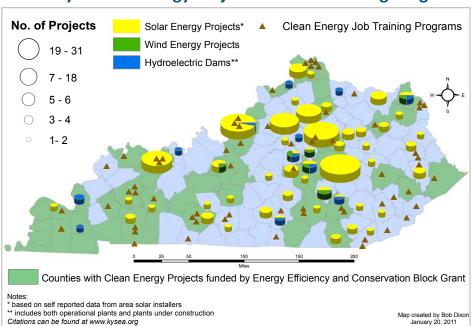
Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency improvements are the best sources of cheap, clean energy — studies show these measures cost about 3.2 cents for every kilowatt hour they save, which is less than half as much as Kentucky's electricity rates on average! Efficiency improvements range from changing light bulbs to installing insulation, more efficient windows to better heating and cooling systems. Due to the aging condition of our homes and buildings, Kentucky's energy efficiency potential is huge. At a minimum, all state growth in energy demand through 2017 can be met through efficiency improvements.

Renewable Energy

Kentucky has untapped potential to generate electricity from renewable energy sources including solar, wind, hydro-electric, and low-impact biomass. Renewable energy systems can be used on the local level to power a home or business, as well as on the large scale of utility power plants. These technologies improve every year and the number of knowledgeable Kentucky professionals in these fields is growing. And, renewable energy is increasingly cost competitive. Utilities in the region are now purchasing wind power at a lower cost than electricity from new coal-powered plants.

Kentucky's Clean Energy Projects and Job Training Programs





Did you know...

Average electricity rates rose 41% in Kentucky over the last 5 years? Rates are expected to continue rising in years to come.

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Kentucky gets as much sunshine as New Jersey, which is a national leader in solar power generation?

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Federal and state incentives are available that lower installation costs for a renewable energy system at a home, business or farm?

Citations are available at www.kysea.org/citations.

Passing state energy policy that supports energy efficiency and renewable energy will:

Create local jobs and grow Kentucky's economy

With better policy in place, Kentucky could attract thousands of new jobs. Clean energy job growth would create new, long-term employment opportunities for Kentucky's manufacturing sector in particular, which has shrunk in employment by more than 30% in the last decade. Since passing policy to increase renewable energy use in 2008, Ohio has seen tremendous job growth, including 700 solar panel manufacturing jobs announced this year.

Save money for Kentucky's families, farms and businesses

Kentucky's electricity rates have risen 41% on average over the last 5 years. These rate increases make housing more unaffordable for Kentucky families, especially for those living in inefficient homes. As rates rise, efficiency savings could mean the difference between homelessness and stability for 1.5 million Kentuckians who live in low-income households where \$1 of every \$5 of income is spent on home energy costs. For farming families, energy efficiency and renewable energy turn a liability into a profitable asset!

Improve Kentuckians' health and environment

Investment in clean energy solutions can reduce chronic diseases and improve our health and well-being. Increased use of renewable energy reduces pollution, a leading cause of asthma attacks, cardiac arrest, cancer and delayed mental development.

Build on Kentucky's clean energy momentum

In the last few years, Kentucky's clean energy job growth rate has been 10% compared to a general job growth rate of only 3.6%. Kentucky has implemented clean energy job training programs, lowered energy use in schools, buildings, and industries, launched programs to improve home efficiency and supported the growth of several clean energy businesses. Now is the time to capitalize on existing momentum.