

Strategic Plan

KENTUCKY ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENT CABINET

FY 2022-
2026



Focusing on our
MISSION

Aspiring toward our
VISION

Maintaining our
VALUES



MISSION

Improve the quality of life for all Kentuckians by protecting our land, air, and water resources; by utilizing our natural resources in an environmentally conscientious manner; by helping families connect with nature and preserving the Commonwealth's natural heritage; and by supporting innovative, resilient, and sustainable energy solutions that together bring economic benefit to the commonwealth.

VISION

A Commonwealth where every Kentuckian has an opportunity to realize their greatest potential supported by government actions that holistically address our energy, environmental and natural resource needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs.

VALUES

- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Reliability and Consistency
- Innovation
- Empowerment
- Fairness, Equity, and Justice
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Accountability and Transparency
- Leadership
- Health and Safety
- Cooperation and Teamwork
- Energy and Environmental Literacy

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

- Achieve and maintain healthy and acceptable air quality.
- Manage, protect, and enhance the quality and quantity of the commonwealth's water resources to ensure reliable safe drinking water and robust recreational opportunities.
- Develop and implement fair, equitable, and effective waste management programs.
- Promote responsible environmental stewardship.
- Encourage the use of native species and preservation of Kentucky's natural heritage.

PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- Reclaim and restore land and water resources affected by mining activities.
- Protect the health and safety of miners.
- Conserve and protect oil and natural gas reserves.
- Provide soil and water conservation programs to the commonwealth.
- Protect and enhance the forest resources of the commonwealth.
- Manage natural areas for sustainable passive recreation and long-term biological integrity.
- Enable and advance the conservation of Kentucky's rare and native species and communities.

RESPONSIBLE ENERGY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- Provide assistance on Kentucky energy resources and use.
- Partner on cost effective and credible energy programming and services.
- Expand current energy markets and develop new opportunities for Kentucky.

- Promote responsible energy policies that provide affordable, efficient, reliable, and sustainable energy solutions.
- Enhance energy resilience and security.

EFFECTIVE UTILITY REGULATION

- Ensure that Kentucky's citizens have access to adequate, efficient and reasonable electric, natural gas, water and sewer services through the regulation of jurisdictional utilities.
- Inspect gas pipelines and enforce federal pipeline safety standards.
- Provide for the financial stability of jurisdictional utilities by setting fair, just and reasonable rates.
- Support the operational competency of regulated utilities.

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR FISCAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

- Adhere to fiscal regulatory requirements.
- Attract, develop, motivate and retain a talented and diverse workforce.
- Provide high quality technology services.
- Ensure fiscal integrity and compliance with federal requirements.

SOUND LEGAL, POLICY, AND REGULATORY ACTIONS

- Ensure that programs meet federal regulatory obligations.
- Ensure that correspondence, record retention and website are appropriately maintained and/or preserved.
- Promote confidence in consumers and regulated entities with exemplary legal representation, meaningful public participation, and sound management.
- Ensure compliance with clear and consistent enforcement.
- Dispense independent, administrative adjudicatory actions for regulatory violations.
- Comply with the Kentucky Open Records Act.
- Provide consumer complaint services.

RESPONSIBLE COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

- Increase public awareness of Kentucky's energy landscape, environment, and natural resources.
- Provide energy, environment, and natural resource educational opportunities and programming.
- Ensure accurate and timely information dissemination on issues and program activities.
- Provide consumer services that are accessible and transparent.
- Maintain robust governmental and legislative relations.

ALIGNMENT WITH GOVERNOR'S PRIORITIES

Gov. Beshear is focused on increasing economic opportunities for all Kentucky families and creating good-paying jobs across the Commonwealth. Kentucky's energy resources and environment are key aspects to a thriving economy. While the Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) doesn't directly influence the accessibility or affordability of healthcare, its protection of clean water, air, and land enhances the health of all Kentuckians. An environment that is safe and healthy is one that supports our collective well-being. We see safeguarding access to healthy outdoor recreational activities (including fishing and swimming) and the state's natural resources as a key part of keeping Kentucky healthy. The governor strives to give every Kentucky family access to a good education by

investing in our schools and helping every child in our state grow up to be the best they can be. Part of that education is information and project-based learning about our diverse energy resources and environment, along with preparing the next generation of STEM careers in these fields. Finally, EEC believes in leading by example, which means leading with integrity and respect and putting the team above individuals. Whether it be with cabinet workforce or with external partners or agencies, coming together and empowering people to find innovative solutions to complex problems is how we move towards a better life for all Kentuckians.