



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steve Beshear, Governor

Leonard K. Peters, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kentucky Energy Department Releases Virtual Tour of Kentucky's Energy History

Department encourages public participation with content

Frankfort, Ky. (March 12, 2015) – The Kentucky Department for Energy Development and Independence (DEDI) has released a virtual tour of Kentucky's energy history. The timeline features videos and pictures that allow viewers to explore Kentucky's historical energy events beginning in 1750 with the first discovery and use of coal to December 2014 when the first utility solar generating facility was approved for Mercer County.

"If history teaches us anything, it's that Kentucky is an energy leader, is diverse and an innovator," said Kenya Stump, assistant director of DEDI's Division of Renewable Energy.

Viewers will see how national and federal actions have influenced energy development and the diversity and innovation that exist within Kentucky's energy landscape. Projects, like the virtual energy timeline, support Gov. Steve Beshear's Energy Plan by helping to educate and engage the public on energy issues. Specifically, the timeline provides a tool for students in the Commonwealth to explore and discover energy topics.

"Kentucky is home to 277 Energy Star-certified schools that provide an energy-efficient, sustainable learning environment for our students," said Stump. "It's important that our children, and future generations, learn the importance of conserving the state's natural resources while also understanding the history behind them."

By definition, the virtual energy timeline is a living project. DEDI encourages people and organizations around the state to review the timeline and contribute additional content. It can be viewed on DEDI's website at <http://energy.ky.gov/pages/default.aspx>. To have your content considered for the timeline, email Kenya.stump@ky.gov or phone 502-564-7192.

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