

2024

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON

ENERGY & THE ENVIRONMENT

Agenda

October 21-22, 2024
Embassy Suites, Lexington



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@KentuckyEEC

Sunday, October 20, 2024

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Registration

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Early Workshop

Intro to Grant Writing- Join us for a no-cost, pre-conference grant writing workshop which will provide participants with a solid understanding of the grant process, with writing tips and tricks that will help make proposals more attractive to funders. This workshop will highlight community development and environmental grants. However, the information covered will be applicable to many other types of grants from federal government and foundation grants.

Provided by the Ky Department for Environmental Protection

Amanda LeFevre, Deputy Commissioner, Ky Dept. for Environmental Protection

Kiersten O'Leary, Kentucky Brownfield Program Coordinator

Monday - October 21, 2024

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Registration; Exhibits open

9:00 am - 9:10 am

Welcome

Amanda LeFevre, Deputy Commissioner, Ky Dept. for Environmental Protection

9:10 am - 9:35 am

A New Vision of Health - Health is not just the absence of disease. Ted Smith, Director of the Center for Healthy Air, Water and Soil at the Envirome Institute shares with us the efforts to explore the interactions between the environment and human health and how we can actively promote health rather than passively prevent disease.

Ted Smith, Director, Center for Healthy Air, Water and Soil, UofL
Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute

9:35 am - 10:35 am

Kentucky's People, Places & Opportunities - Kentucky government agency leaders discuss efforts to support community sustainability and how they are partnering to build a better Kentucky.

Guests:

Kari Johnson, Environmental Scientist Consultant II, Ky Energy & Environment Cabinet (Moderator)

Lindy Casebier, Secretary, Ky Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet

Jamie Link, Secretary, Ky Education & Labor Cabinet

Jeff Noel, Secretary, Ky Cabinet for Economic Development

10:35 am - 11:00 am

Break/Networking

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Weathering the Storm- Weather events, including heat waves, flooding, tornadoes and wildfires, can present challenges to Kentucky's utilities and the citizens they serve. The past few years have illuminated the issues we must face in an era where extreme weather events are more and more common. How are regulators, utility providers, state/local agencies, and nonprofits working together to keep the lights on and weather the storm?

Guests:

Kenya Stump, Executive Director, Ky Office of Energy Policy (Moderator)

Eric Gibson, Director, Ky Division of Emergency Management

Greg Henrich, Vice President of Transmission Operations and Power Supply, Tennessee Valley Authority

Heather Polzin, Senior Reliability Advisor, Southeast Reliability Corporation

Kevin Middleton, President, United Way of Kentucky

Monday - October 21, 2024

12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

Not Your Grandmother's Nuclear Energy - Nuclear energy is back, but it looks different from what you're grandmother envisioned. Find out the latest in nuclear energy innovation and what to expect in the years to come.

Patrick White, Research Director, Nuclear Innovation Alliance

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm

Lunch

Featured Speaker, Crystal Wilkinson, Former Ky Poet Laureate, 2021-2023

1:45 pm - 2:45 pm

EEC in Action - EEC's leadership team provides an update on programs and initiatives, as well as the many challenges facing the agency and how it is rising to meet them.

Guests:

Joanna Ashford, Manager, Ky Division of Water (Moderator)

Tony Hatton, Commissioner, Ky Dept. for Environmental Protection

Jay Cunningham, Environmental Scientist Consultant II, Ky Dept. for Natural Resources

Linda Bridwell, Executive Director, Ky Public Service Commission

Sarah Noble, General Counsel, Ky Office of Legal Services

2:45 pm - 3:15 pm

Break/Networking

3:15 pm - 4:30 pm

The Best of Both Worlds - Economic development and environmental protection don't have to be at odds. This session will highlight innovative projects and ideas that make our environment better, save energy and challenge us to think about our resources in a whole new way.

Guests:

Haley McCoy, Chief Business Development Officer, Thoroughbred Architects & Engineers (Moderator)

Austin Davey, President, Pratt Industries USA Paper Division

Steve Hall, Environmental Director, Crown Cork Holdings, Inc.

Valerie Lucas, Executive Director, KY/TN Water Professionals: Next Round Brewing

Stuart McCurdy, VP of Development, NextEra Energy Resources

Chad Eaton, Director of Government Affairs, Nucor Corporation

Tuesday - October 22, 2024

7:30 am - 8:30 am

Registration; Exhibits open

8:30 am - 8:35 am

Welcome

Amanda LeFevre, Deputy Commissioner, Ky Dept. for Environmental Protection

8:35 am - 9:10 am

Michelle Moore - Chief Executive Officer, Groundswell

Michelle Moore returns to the Governor's Conference stage to talk about the power of community level solar and energy projects and how they can make a difference to the larger grid.

9:10 am - 9:40 am

Keynote Address

Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman

9:40 am - 10:40 am

Powerful Communities - Opportunities abound for communities to stretch their wings with energy projects. This panel will highlight opportunities and resources for local projects.

Guests:

Ashley Runyon, Assistant Director, Ky Office of Energy Policy (Moderator)

Josh Bills, Senior Energy Analyst, Mountain Association

Keli Reynolds, Assistant Director of Single Family Programs HCA, Ky Housing Corporation

Kacy Hicks, Energy Innovation Coordinator, Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR)

10:40 am - 11:00 am

Break/Networking

11:00 pm - 12:15 pm

Game Changers at Work - Grants from the Bipartisan

Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act are making a real difference to Kentucky's communities. Learn how nonprofits, local governments and others are taking advantage of this enhanced funding landscape.

Guests:

Alicia Jacobs, Branch Manager, Drinking Water Branch, Ky Division of Water (Moderator)

Brooke Pardue, President and Chief Executive Officer, Parks Alliance of Louisville

Enitra Beattie, Heart Healthy Chef/Urban Farmer Agriculturalist, Greenz N Tingz

Chris Campbell, President, Kentucky Steam Heritage Corporation

Sherry Weedman, Senior Environmental Health Scientist/Program Manager, Tetra Tech

Brandon Howard, Director and State Forester, Ky Division of Forestry

James Cable, Director, Ky Division of Abandoned Mine Lands

Tuesday - October 22, 2024

12:15 pm - 1:40 pm

Lunch

Featured Speaker, Sister Lorraine Lauter, Water by Women

1:40 pm - 2:40 pm

High Ground Next Steps - What's next for High Ground Communities as infrastructure is installed and homes start to appear? How do we engage partners in making those communities resilient and identify potential community modifications such as tornado shelters and community solar.

Guests:

Sarah Gaddis, Director, Ky Division of Water (Moderator)

John Lyons, Deputy Secretary, Ky Energy & Environment Cabinet

Jim King, CEO, Fahe

Scott Alexander, Perry County Judge-Executive

Seth Long, Executive Director, Homes, Inc.

Scott McReynolds, Executive Director, HDA Homes

2:40 am - 3:00 pm

Break/Networking

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The Truth about Energy Transition - Transitioning from fossil fuels to other sources of energy is not as easy as flipping a switch. This looming transition impacts our citizens, economic development and the health of our communities. Here, we discuss the realities of our energy future and the path to get there.

Guests:

Kenya Stump, Executive Director, Ky Office of Energy Policy (Moderator)

Carrie Zalewski, VP, Markets and Transmissions, American Clean Power

Timothy Burdis, Director, State Policy Solutions, PJM

Lon Huber, Senior VP, Pricing and Customer Solutions, Duke Energy

Brian Thumm, VP, Performance Improvement and Risk Management, SERC Reliability Corporation

4:00 pm

Conference Wrap-up