

2024

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON

ENERGY & THE ENVIRONMENT

Agenda

October 21-22, 2024
Embassy Suites, Lexington



Download the
conference app



@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

Kiersten O'Leary, Kentucky Brownfield Program Coordinator

Monday - October 21, 2024

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Registration; Exhibits open

9:00 am - 9:20 am

Welcome

Rebecca Goodman, Secretary of the Energy & Environment Cabinet

Keynote Address

Governor Andy Beshear (invited)

9:20 am - 10:35 am

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

Guests:

Rebecca Goodman, Ky Energy & Environment Cabinet
(Moderator)

Lindy Casebier, Ky Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet

Jamie Link, Ky Education & Labor Cabinet

Jeff Noel, Ky Cabinet for Economic Development (invited)

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, Tennessee Valley Authority

Heather Polzin, Southeast Reliability Corporation

Kevin Middleton, President, United Way of Kentucky

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

Monday - October 21, 2024

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, 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, Interim General Counsel, 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)

John Anderson, Environmental Supervisor, Nucor Corporation

Michael LaFave, Kruger, Inc.

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

Tuesday - October 22, 2024

7:30 am - 8:30 am

Registration; Exhibits open

8:30 am - 9:05 am

Welcome

Rebecca Goodman, Secretary of the Energy & Environment Cabinet

Keynote Address

Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman (invited)

9:05 am - 9:40 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.

9:40 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:

Justin Adams, Director, Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement (Moderator)

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

Enerita Beatie, Heart Healthy Chef/Urban Farmer
Agriculturalist, Greenz N Tingz

Chris Campbell, President, Kentucky Steam Heritage Corporation

Sherry Weedman, Programs Manager and Environmental Scientist, Kentucky Steam Heritage Corporation (Tetra Tech)

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

Tuesday - October 22, 2024

12:15 pm - 1:40 pm

Lunch

Featured Speaker, Sister Lorraine Lautner, 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, 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:

TBD (Moderator)

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

Asim Haque, Senior VP, Governmental and Member Services, PJM

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

NERC (TBD)

4:00 pm

Conference Wrap-up