

**GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE  
ON ENERGY & THE  
ENVIRONMENT**

# **AGENDA**

**OCT. 15-17, 2023**

**Embassy Suites,  
Lexington, Kentucky**



**Sunday, October 15, 2023**

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Registration

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Early Workshop**

**Roots of Revival: Nurturing Community Involvement in Redevelopment** - Community involvement plays a pivotal role in successful redevelopment projects. This session aims to explore the significance of community engagement and provide strategies that you can take home to help engage in meaningful dialogue and collaboration with your community throughout every stage of the redevelopment process. Learn how engaging local residents, businesses and organizations can contribute to the social, economic and environmental revitalization of blighted areas.

**Provided by Shane Barton, Community Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky and the Kentucky Brownfield Program**

## Monday - October 16, 2023

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Registration; Exhibits open

9:00 am - 9:05 am

### Welcome

**Rebecca Goodman**, Secretary of the Energy & Environment Cabinet

9:05 am - 9:40 am

### Keynote Address & Awards

**Governor Andy Beshear**

9:40 am - 10:40 am

**Community Conversations** - Collaborative and productive work with resource-constrained communities is pivotal in helping them not just meet current needs but thrive in the future. Discover some of the innovative ways organizations are making things happen in communities across the state and region.

#### Guests:

**Shane Barton**, Downtown Revitalization Coordinator, Community & Economic Development Initiative of Ky (Moderator)

**Cameron Correll**, Executive Director, Winchester First

**Jamie Miller**, City Manager, City of Paris

**Anna Allen-Edwards**, Paris/Bourbon Co Planning Commission

**Vince Guenthner**, Consultant, Louisville Water Company

10:40 am - 11:00 am

### Break/Networking

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Disaster Response & Community Planning** - This panel will discuss both the 2021 tornado and 2022 flooding response. What was learned? What is happening as a result of these events?

#### Guests:

**Sarah Gaddis**, Environmental Scientist Consultant II, Ky Division of Water (Moderator)

**Colonel Jeremy Slinker**, Director, Ky Division of Emergency Management

**James McCloud**, Branch Manager, Ky Division of Environmental Protection, Emergency Response Branch

**Joe Burns**, Director of Programs and Operations, Ky Rural Water Assoc.

**Kenya Stump**, Executive Director, Ky Office of Energy Policy

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

### Lunch

**Featured Speaker, Bill Meck**, Chief Meteorologist, WLEX  
Since before the turn of the century, Bill has been bringing Kentuckians their weather with an award-winning blend of humor, education, and accuracy. During that time, he's seen well over 100,000 Kentucky kids with his Bill's Weather 101 program. Bill will share his experiences being a professional weather analyst and create a "Weather 1,000,001" just for us.

**Monday, October 16, 2023  
(continued)**

1:15 pm - 2:30 pm

**Seeking Higher Ground** - Following catastrophic storm events, many communities assess how they can better prepare for future events and protect their citizens from loss of life and property. This session will cover the High Ground Initiative and how nonprofits, local, state and federal partners are coming together to create storm resilient housing opportunities for those impacted by the July 2022 flooding.

**Guests:**

**Rebecca Goodman**, Secretary, Ky Energy & Environment Cabinet (Moderator)

**John Lyons**, Deputy Secretary, Ky Energy & Environment Cabinet

**D.J. Wasson**, Chief of Staff, Ky Public Protection Cabinet

**Jamie Emmons**, Chief of Staff, Ky Transportation Cabinet

**Hank Spalding**, H.A. Spalding Engineers, Inc

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

**Break/Networking**

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

**PFAS Panel**- PFAS is an evolving issue in Kentucky and across the country. This session will highlight how Kentucky has approached the PFAS challenge and what regulators see unfolding next in the EPA's PFAS roadmap.

**Guests:**

**Tony Hatton**, Commissioner, Ky Department for Environmental Protection (Moderator)

**Melanie Arnold**, Environmental Scientist Consultant I, Ky Division of Water

3:45 pm - 4:30 pm

**Hydrogen Technologies** - Hydrogen is fast becoming a major topic of conversation in the energy landscape. This session will cover new technologies and initiatives that are being explored or piloted here and across the country.

**Guests:**

**Steven Thomas Barrera**, Executive Staff Advisor, Ky Office of Energy Policy (Moderator)

**Wes Cate**, NGL Supply

**Erich Evans**, Director of Strategy & Risk Integration NiSource, Inc.

**Tim Harris**, Principal Engineer, Entrust Solutions Group

## Tuesday - October 17, 2023

7:30 am - 8:00 am

Registration; Exhibits open

8:00 am - 8:10 am

**Day Two Welcome**, Rebecca Goodman, Secretary of the Energy & Environment Cabinet

8:10 am - 8:45 am

**Rural Renaissance, Michelle Moore**, CEO of Groundswell  
As CEO of the national nonprofit organization Groundswell, Michelle Moore seeks an equitable energy future for our most resource-constrained communities. Learn about the organizations work to build resilient and regenerative communities through community-based energy solutions.

8:45 am - 9:45 am

**The EEC Update** - Join agency leadership to talk about the issues of the day and what they see as some of the challenges of the immediate future.

**Guests:**

**Barry Mayfield**, Executive Director, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs (Moderator)

**Tony Hatton**, Commissioner, Ky Department for Environmental Protection

**Jay Cunningham**, Environmental Scientist Consultant II, Ky Department for Natural Resources

**Kenya Stump**, Executive Director, Ky Office of Energy Policy

**Linda Bridwell**, Executive Director, Ky Public Service Commission

9:45 am - 10:45 am

**Kentucky's Energy Landscape & Opportunities** - There's a lot happening in the world of energy, and with it, many challenges and opportunities. Panelists will discuss how Kentucky is supporting a variety of energy efforts to build the economy and allow the Commonwealth to take advantage of new and emerging industries.

**Guests:**

**Monique Quarterman**, Deputy Executive Director for Entrepreneurship & Small Business Innovation, Ky Cabinet for Economic Development (Moderator)

**Maribeth Sawchuk**, VP of Communications, BrightNight

**Aron Patrick**, Director of Research & Development, PPL Corp

**Melanie Farrell**, VP of External Strategy & Regulatory Oversight, Tennessee Valley Authority

**Danny Carroll**, Ky State Senator

10:45 am - 11:15 am

**Break/Networking**

**Tuesday - October 17, 2023  
(continued)**

11:15 am - 12:15 pm

**Infrastructure Funding Updates** - What's happened and what's new in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding opportunities. Learn how communities have taken part and how can they can participate in the future.

**Guests:**

**Joanna Ashford**, Manager, Watershed Management Branch  
(Moderator)

**John Webb**, Assistant Director, Ky Division of Water

**Brandon Howard**, Exec. Director, Ky Division of Forestry

**Kenya Stump**, Exec. Director, Ky Office of Energy Policy

12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

**Lunch**

**Featured Speaker, Chef Ouita Michel**

Chef Michel will share her message of food as a way to connect people to each other, our communities, our landscape, our past and our present. The audience will hear her passion on critical issues like food insecurity, education and sustainable food systems, as well as access and support of the arts.

1:30 pm - 2:00 pm

**Kentucky's Environmental Past, Present and Future,**

**Tom FitzGerald** - "Fitz" has been an advocate for Kentucky's environment and natural resources for decades. He's been a fixture in the halls of Kentucky's general assembly since 1978, and served as Director of the Kentucky Resources Council for 37 years. Join Tom as he shares his thoughts on where we've been, where we are and what the future holds for the Commonwealth.

2:00 pm - 2:15 pm

**Break/Networking**

2:15 pm - 3:30 pm

**Innovations in Sustainability** - As technology and knowledge have evolved, so have our ideas about sustainability and what it means to be a sustainable business, industry or organization. This session will cover some of the cutting-edge efforts occurring here in Kentucky.

**Guests:**

**Gary Logsdon**, Assistant Director, Ky Division of Waste Management (Moderator)

**Joshua and Jared Ravenscraft**, Cofounders of New Frontier Brand

**Steve Wilhite**, President of Sustainability Business, Schneider Electric

**Ben Southworth**, Exec. Director, Glean Kentucky

**Dr. Kevin Baldrige**, Craft Sustainability Coordinator, James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits at UK