

Jack Barnett

From: KY Solar Energy Society <no-reply@kyses.org>
Sent: Sunday, June 1, 2014 4:11 PM
To: Jack Barnett
Subject: KySES Quarterly News

KySES Annual Membership Meeting was held on May 10th. Kentucky's 2014 legislative session is over. Want a solar license plate in KY? Welcome new members, and congrats to our newly elected Directors.



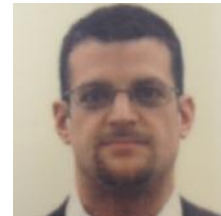
KySES

Newsletter

2Q 2014

Decline of Coal is Forecast

At the Kentucky Solar Energy Society (KySES) annual membership meeting on May 10th, Aron Patrick, Assistant Director at the Kentucky Energy & Environment Cabinet, Department of Energy Development and Independence, presented an insightful and data rich presentation on Kentucky's current and future electricity demands and sources. He forecast a decline in coal-fired generation in favor of natural gas and the possibility for greater inclusion of renewable sources.



Aron's key points that highlight the potential environmental benefits and improvements to the KY solar landscape are:

- An increase over the last 10 years in the average Kentucky residential electricity prices from 6.1 cents/kWh to 9.3 cents/kWh.
- Predicted drop of coal as an electricity source from 93% of generation to 69% by 2025, with a linked small decrease in CO2 emissions from 84 MT/yr to 74 MT/yr.
- Utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity is currently still perceived as one of the most expensive options in Kentucky, where 'least cost' generation is legally mandated.
- Continued annual improvement in PV installation costs (modeled as decreasing by 3.5%/yr) will eventually make solar

the 'least cost' generation choice.

Take a look at the full presentation, available [here](#); it's a mine of information to support our efforts to grow Kentucky solar. There's also a video of Aron giving a similar presentation [on YouTube](#) and a [deeper presentation](#) on the decline of Kentucky coal.

Also on June 2nd, the US [Environmental Protection Agency](#) is expected to announce its plan for regulating carbon emissions from existing electricity generation plants. So stay tuned!

2014 Legislative Session

The regular 2014 legislative session ended on April 15th, with no real progress on improving Kentucky's path toward renewable and solar energy. We did have great turnout, along with the KY Sustainable Energy Alliance and other allies, for two lobbying days in Frankfort, but in the end, none of the bills KySES supported became law.

Clean Energy Opportunity Act (HR195): included an efficiency and renewable energy portfolio standard, plus a solar feed-in tariff; received a hearing on March 6th, but no committee vote. Thanks to Louisville area Rep. Mary Lou Marzian for sponsoring this comprehensive legislation.

Energy Project Assessment District Act (HB404): would allow local governments to create tax districts in support of renewable and energy conservation projects (aka [PACE](#)). Rep. James Kay of Woodford County was the sponsor.

Net-metering Expansion (HB535): would require regulated utilities to implement net-metering for systems up to 500kW (vs. the current cap of 30kW). Thanks to Louisville area Rep. Steve Riggs for sponsoring this critical solar improvement.

Visit [KySEA.org](#) for a comprehensive summary of [the good and the bad](#) related to energy legislation during

Solar Car Construction

In conjunction with the annual KySES membership meeting, we toured the University of Kentucky's solar car team and workshop. This is a student-run organization, made up of mostly undergraduate engineering students who volunteer their time to build a solar-powered race car. Since 1999, UK students have competed in various races against other universities from around the world. In July, they will be racing in the [Formula Sun Grand Prix](#) in Austin, TX, followed by the [American Solar Challenge](#), which begins in Austin and ends in Minneapolis, MN (1,700+ miles across 7 states in 8 days).

The students showed us their latest race car, *Gato del Sol V*, currently under construction, with the following specifications: 500 pound limit w/o driver, 3 wheels, 5 kWh battery pack made up of LiFePO4 cells, SunPower C60 monocrystalline silicon cells and a modular aluminum frame with a steel suspension. The car should reach a top speed of around 75 mph.

this year's session.

BREAKING NEWS: Across the river in Ohio, the fossil fuel industry has [won their first battle](#) in a fruitless war against renewable energy, with the passage into law of a highly partisan bill that freezes for two years [Ohio's renewable portfolio standard](#) that was passed in 2008 with nearly unanimous support. This action is likely also to impact Kentucky solar PV system owners, since recent increases in [SREC](#) prices sold to Ohio utilities may now be reversed. Meanwhile, ALEC (American Legislative Exchange Council) and others are calling for (and funding) even more attacks on solar and renewable energy in other states as well. This is going to get really ugly!



It is great to see so many inspired students who are pursuing a career in science, technology, engineering and math. Follow the team's progress via their [Facebook page](#).

Featured Solar Install in KY

KySES members toured UK's Marksbury Building during this year's annual meeting. The building boasts a 30 kilowatt solar array installed by Kentucky-based Solar Energy Solutions in 2010. The array features SunPower 305 watt modules mounted on the metal roof of the building's penthouse as well as on two dual-axis trackers mounted on the building's third floor.



Array performance is tracked via online monitoring. As KySES members know,

Welcome New Members!

Since our previous newsletter, the following folks have joined or renewed their membership:

- Donald Adams
- Josh Bills
- Peter Brondum
- Don Colliver
- Kira Costanza
- Marlon Francis
- Nancy Givens
- Jeremy Higgins with *Kentuckiana Power LLC* - Supporting partner
- Kyle Johnson with *Harvest Energy Solutions* - Supporting partner
- Rosanne Klarer
- Andy McDonald with *Earth Tools Inc.* - Supporting partner
- Wallace McMullen
- Richard S. Levine
- David Ohler
- Sam Parker with *Parker Commercial Storage* - Supporting partner
- Steve Ricketts - Supporting partner

solar has a long history of reliable performance across the Commonwealth.

KySES members can [login to the KySES.org website](#) to see more pictures from the tours and the 2014 annual meeting on our members-only pages. We'd love to see your photos of the event, so please upload!

- Melanie Rogers - Student member
- Benjamin Rupp
- Michael Schmidt
- David Wrede

Membership is very important to help us educate and promote solar energy in Kentucky! So be sure to tell your friends, neighbors and co-workers!

Now you can join both KySES and ASES, including a subscription to [Solar Today magazine](#), for just \$60 annually. [Click here](#) for this special offer, and pick Kentucky as your chapter in the check-out process.

Important KySES Information to Remember

Upcoming Events:

June 12 - KySES Board Meeting via conference call; contact any board member at least one day in advance to join us!
July 10 - KySES Board Meeting
July 12 - Solar Hot Water Workshop at the Grant County Public Library, 10am-Noon
August 14 - KySES Board Meeting
October 3-5 - National Solar Tour

Want a Solar license plate? Signup on the [KySES.org webpage](#) & invite your neighbors! We need 900 cars at \$25 each prior to submitting a design!

Your KySES Board of Directors

- Jack Barnett, Chair
- Norb Baunach, Treasurer
- Josh Bills
- Brad Morton
- Matt PartyMiller
- Siobhan Pritchard

Congratulations to Josh Bills, Robert Chatham, and Steve Ricketts who were elected to serve new terms starting on July 1st. Peter Brondum will join as a Director-at-large for a year. Much thanks to Brad, Matt and Siobhan for their service on the board of KySES!



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Contact email: kystreasurer@gmail.com

KySES Memberships are very affordable!
\$20 for individuals or \$10 for students.
Business memberships for \$100-\$500.
Visit www.kyses.org for details!

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Solar Energy Solutions

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