

Jack Barnett

Subject: FW: KySES Quarterly News

From: KY Solar Energy Society [mailto:no-reply@kyses.org]
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2014 Solar Tour Success! Virtual Tour around KY and Solar Power International



Newsletter

Fourth Quarter 2014

2014 KY Solar Tour is a Success

Every year the month of October brings many great things to Kentucky, refreshing temperatures, harvest-fresh foods, colorful trees, and the national Solar Tour. Yes, **solar works great in KY**, and every year too many people find this surprising. This year, Frankfort, Berea and Louisville each hosted a solar tour event to help people see solar energy in action and how we can all benefit from clean, sustainable sunshine!



Heart & Soul Farm



BMU Solar Farm

Louisville Solar Tour



Speaking with a solar homeowner or installer is often a critical step in helping people to understand solar and why we want to see more solar investment here in KY.

Frankfort's tour on October 4th was at the Heart & Soul Farm, where Earth Tools has installed a PV-powered well pump for the farm's irrigation system. Berea's tour on October 11th included many businesses and home tours in the morning, then an energy-themed party at the Berea Municipal Utilities (BMU) headquarters building and Solar Farm in the afternoon. The Louisville tour, also on the 11th, was the largest in the Commonwealth with nearly 40 different sites around the city available for the

public to visit. This year's tour had many new sites, including the home of Tori Murden McClure, the President of Spalding University (see below).

Our thanks go out to everyone who opened their home or business for this year's Solar Tour, and especially to all the volunteers who worked so hard to put on these great events!

Ky DEDI's Virtual Solar Tour

KY's [Dept of Energy Development and Independence](#) has released a new Virtual Solar Tour, showing off the many solar energy systems installed across the Commonwealth. *“Kentucky has approximately 10 megawatts of installed solar capacity. If people see solar energy projects working in Kentucky, then they are more likely to start asking questions and considering it as an option for their own homes or businesses,”* said Kenya Stump, assistant director for Renewable Energy in Kentucky.

The new [solar energy story map](#) takes a visitor around the state virtually to view different types of solar energy projects across different locations and applications. For example, viewers will see everything from agricultural to commercial projects along with both state and federally funded projects. Be sure to share this map with your friends and co-workers, as well as on social media.

To have your project considered for the story map, please email Kenya.Stump@ky.gov or phone at 502-564-7192.

Solar Works in Kentucky!

The Murden-McClure home in Louisville had a 11kW solar PV system installed in 2012 by Earthwell Systems. It has 48 Mage PowerTec Plus 235W modules, and Outback Flex hybrid inverters with a bank of Outback Energy Cell batteries for up to three days of off-grid backup power even if its cloudy. This home was one of the featured PV



Solar Power International 14

With the US solar industry nearing 16 Gigawatts of installed capacity, the 14th [Solar Power International](#) conference got underway on October 20-23 in Las Vegas. The conference had over 15,000 attendees, and US Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid was the keynote speaker. He and Secretary of Energy, Dr. Ernest Moniz, both spoke about their strong support for renewables and extending the federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC, currently at 30%, but scheduled to reduce to only 10% after 2016). The primary conference sponsors, [SEIA](#) and [SEPA](#), both renewed their call for expanding the ITC as otherwise it could be very costly to the solar job market, which to date has created over 150,000 US jobs. Recall that the 2013 expiration of the wind energy Production Tax Credit resulted in a loss of over 30,000 jobs. Please go to <http://www.seia.org/act-now> to show your support for SEIA's advocacy efforts.

Even with our celebration underway, we all need to stay informed about the nationwide attacks on net-metering, pay attention to local rate cases, unite in our efforts to extend the ITC as well as KY's small tax credit (set to expire next year), promote energy efficiency & renewable energy, share best practices, and support like-minded organizations.

Welcome New Members!

Since our previous newsletter, the following folks have joined our organization:

- Howard Hunt

Thanks so much to these fine folks and to our renewing members as well! Our membership is very inexpensive and important to help educate and promote for solar energy in Kentucky!

You can join both KySES and ASES, including a

systems during the 2014 Louisville Solar Tour.

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:

Nov 8 8:30-5:30 - Pipelines, Fracking and KY's Future Beyond Fossil Fuels conference in Lexington. [Click here](#) for info.

Nov 13 10:30-4 - Ky Sustainable Energy Alliance General Meeting in Lexington.

Visit [KySEA.org](#) for details.

Nov 17 7est - KySES Board Meeting via conference call; contact any board member at least one day in advance to join us!

Dec 11(?) - KySES Board conference call

Jan 8(?) - KySES Board conference call

Your KySES Board of Directors

- Jack Barnett, Chair
- Robert Chatham, Vice-chair
- Steve Ricketts, Secretary
- Norb Baunach, Treasurer
- Josh Bills

As of Oct 30rd, Peter Brondum has resigned as Director at-large. If you're interested and able to contribute to the society, please contact any KySES board member.



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Contact email:

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KySES Memberships are very affordable!

\$20 for individuals or \$10 for students.

Business memberships vary from \$100 to \$500.

Visit www.kyses.org for details!
