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Visit KREC members and friends on **facebook** to share information, discuss ideas, ask questions or post items of interest to the renewable energy community and help get the word out about what's happening in renewable energy and energy efficiency in Kentucky.

## Highlights of KREC's March Meeting

KREC held its March 2011 Quarterly Meeting on March 30 at the University of Louisville's Shelby Campus in Louisville. Thirty-five attendees, representing business, government, higher education and the public, heard the presentations and participated in discussions and question-and-answer sessions during the meeting. KPPC Executive Director Cam Metcalf presented updates on KREC activities, and KREC members and guests had the opportunity to network and share information about renewable energy research, initiatives and business opportunities in Kentucky.



Brent Bailey (pictured left) provided an update on the activities of the 25 X '25 national initiative and an overview of the organization's most recent [Progress Report](#).

renewable energy sectors.

Mr. Bailey discussed the current status, recent growth and continuing challenges faced by the different

Steve Lomax, senior manager for Clean & Renewable Energy at the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), spoke about a recently completed [intergrated resource plan](#) titled *TVA's Energy and Environmental Future*.

Tim Hughes, director for the Division of Biofuels in KY's Department for Energy Development and Independence, provided an update on renewable energy initiatives in the Commonwealth. Mr. Hughes stressed the importance of working together to bring green jobs, economic opportunities and energy security to Kentucky.

### **Competitive Grants Program Updates**

Lead researchers from four of the ongoing KREC-funded projects based

## Contribute an Article to REnews!

KREC would like to publish your thoughts on renewable energy and energy efficiency in Kentucky in the "Members' Forum". Please send your opinions, articles or news about RE happenings in the Commonwealth to [KREC@kppc.org](mailto:KREC@kppc.org). A short piece is preferable (300 or fewer words work best).

Make your voice heard – we want to give KREC members a forum to spread the word about renewable energy efforts and issues.

at UofL gave updates on their work.

- M. Keith Sharp - *Investigation of Cooling Season Performance of a Solar Heat Pipe System*
- Mark McGinley - *Cost Effective Energy Efficient School Design-Applied Research-Energy Efficiency*
- Mahendra Sunkara - *Large Size, Lithium Ion Batteries for HEV Applications*
- Eric Berson and Keith Davis - *Production of High Value Cellulase Enzymes from Tobacco Biomass*



The grant funding will come to an end this quarter, and the results of all current projects will be presented at a special KREC Quarterly Meeting in June 2011.

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## KREC Exhibit at the Conn Center's KY Statewide Workshop

KREC brought its exhibit and public information materials to the Conn Center for Renewable Energy Research's Statewide Workshop on March 14 and 15. The workshop, held at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, drew government and business representatives and researchers from around the world.

Learn more about the Conn Center's activities and research programs at the Center's [website](#).

**KPPC Named ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year**

KPPC is Kentucky's primary resource to help businesses, industries and other organizations develop environmentally sustainable, cost-saving solutions for improved efficiency. Based at the University of Louisville J.B. Speed School of Engineering, KPPC provides technical information and assistance that is free, confidential and non-regulatory.

Information contained in this newsletter is a service of KPPC and is offered solely as a general reference. The University of Louisville, KPPC, their employees, sponsors and all technical sources referenced in this correspondence do not: (a) make any warranty or representation, expressed or implied, with respect to the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of the information; and (b) assume any liabilities with respect to the use of or for damages resulting from any information contained in this correspondence. Mention of trade names, commercial products, or services does not constitute endorsement or recommendation of use.



KPPC received an ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Award for helping clients build self-sustaining, energy management programs

through onsite assessments, training, technical support and recognition. The award is presented annually by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to ENERGY STAR partners who have demonstrated leadership and commitment in protecting American's health and environment through energy efficiency achievements.

#### **KPPC's key accomplishments include:**

Enrolling 100 percent of the State's 174 school districts in the KEEPS - Kentucky Energy Efficiency Program for Schools; 68 school districts are now ENERGY STAR partners and more than 80 K-12 schools have earned the ENERGY STAR, 51 of which were certified in 2010.

Recognizing KEEPS school districts that use ENERGY STAR tools and resources, such as Portfolio Manager, and publicizing their successes statewide through websites, newsletters, press releases and award ceremonies.

Having 20 commercial and industrial facilities pledge their commitment to continued energy management improvement, with a goal of reducing energy use by 2.5 percent each year for 10 years, by using ENERGY STAR tools, such as Portfolio Manager and Target Finder.

Conducting more than 600 workshops, seminars and training sessions. Over 33,000 attendees have benefitted from these learning opportunities, which promote the ENERGY STAR Guidelines for Energy Management.



## **U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Energy Announce Funding for Biomass Research and Development Initiative**

The U.S. Departments of Agriculture (USDA) and Energy (DOE) have jointly announced up to \$30 million over three to four years that will support research and development in advanced biofuels, bioenergy, and high-value biobased products. The projects funded through the Biomass Research and Development Initiative (BRDI) will help create a diverse group of economically and environmentally sustainable sources of renewable biomass and increase the availability of alternative renewable fuels and biobased products. Advanced biofuels produced from these projects are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by a minimum of 50 percent compared to fossil fuels and will play an important role in diversifying America's energy portfolio.

For fiscal year 2011, applicants seeking BRDI funding must propose projects that integrate science and engineering research in three technical areas that are critical to the broader success of alternative biofuels production. To learn more, read the full press release at the [EERE news site](#).

