



Sustainable Solutions Post



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Kentucky Energy Alliance Meets at Republic Conduit in Louisville

More than 40 industry and state government representatives gathered October 11 for the fourth meeting of the Kentucky Energy Alliance (KEA), organized by KPPC. Republic Conduit hosted the meeting at its facility in Louisville.

KEA meetings are presented as part of KPPC's environmental sustainability training series and provide a forum for attendees to learn from one another, discussing their concerns and experiences in trying to improve energy efficiency at their facilities. The October 11 meeting featured presentations from member industries and a discussion of utility opportunities, as well as the Republic Conduit case study and facility tour.

Republic Conduit, a division of Tenaris Group, is the leading manufacturer of steel electrical conduit in the United States. Beginning in 2008, the company has made waste and energy reduction projects a priority. It has made significant progress in energy efficiency, waste reduction and wastewater treatment. Some of the highlights presented in the case study included reduced CO₂ emissions, an ongoing zero waste-to-landfill project that should be up and running by the end of the year, and correcting the facility's Power Factor by installing the capacitor bank shown above. This project alone helped the company save about \$6,000 each month on their electricity bill.



Kentucky Save Energy Now Awards

Also at the October 11 KEA meeting, three KY SEN industrial facilities were recognized for their commitment to energy management. Florida

Tile of Lawrenceburg and nth/works of Louisville recently signed the KY SEN pledge and are at level one in the five level KY SEN recognition program. Republic Conduit, which has aggressively pursued energy management and joined KY SEN in 2010, has achieved level four status.



(From left to right) KPPC's Richard Meisenhelder recognizing KY SEN participants for their progress in energy management - Dan Marvin of Florida Tile (level one), Kevin Poppe of nth/works (level one) and Victor Grazionale of Republic Conduit (level four).

Thanks to our Host

KPPC thanks the Republic Conduit and Tenaris team for graciously hosting the KEA meeting, sharing their experiences with attendees and providing lunch for the visitors.

The KY SEN initiative is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through the combined efforts of the following organizations: Kentucky Department for Energy Development and Independence, the U.S. Department of Energy and KPPC.

Leveraging Funding for Kentucky

With core funding from the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection's Hazardous Waste Management Fund, KPPC provides a wide range of environmental sustainability resources and services throughout the Commonwealth. To enhance those services and better serve our clients, the Center leverages funding through grants and contracts.

This month, KPPC begins work on four recently-awarded grants:

- U.S. EPA Pollution Prevention Grant - partner with the Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance to develop and deliver technical assistance and education related to toxics use and greenhouse gas reductions, resource and water conservation, and waste reduction.
 - Pollution Prevention Information Network - relocate the Environmental Sustainability Resource Center/Pollution
-

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.

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Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx) from the North Carolina Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance to KPPC to continue providing P2Rx services for U.S. EPA Regions 3 and 4.

- U.S. EPA Source Reduction Assistance Grant - develop an E3: Economy, Energy and Environment initiative for Kentucky, partnering with federal, state and local governments, utilities and manufacturers. E3 aims to help integrate energy efficiency, lean practices, waste reduction and water conservation into the daily operations of small- to mid-size manufacturers.
- USDA Rural Energy for America Program - partner with state and federal agencies to conduct energy assessments to make grant and low-interest loan funding available to a wider group of small, rural, independent businesses in Kentucky.

Since KPPC began in 1994, the Center has received nearly \$6.5 million in core funding and has successfully leveraged that funding to receive an additional \$20.2 million from state and federal grants and appropriations.

KPPC to Represent Region 4 on NPPR Board of Directors

Lissa McCracken, KPPC Assistant Director, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the [National Pollution Prevention Roundtable](#). NPPR is the largest member organization in the United States devoted solely to promoting pollution prevention.



McCracken will represent U.S. EPA Region 4 states on the Board, which sets policy and direction, supports the mission, goals, objectives and financial health of the organization.

Newsbits

- **New RPN Initiative: Green Purchasing for Existing Buildings**
The Responsible Purchasing Network's newest initiative focuses on how procurement decisions can green existing buildings. This program, funded by the U.S. EPA, will include several webinars over the next year that will demonstrate how to increase energy efficiency, reduce waste



and improve indoor air quality by purchasing “green” building maintenance products. Purchasers in EPA Regions 1, 4, 7 and 9 may also qualify for FREE technical assistance to help advance their high-profile green building initiatives. [Visit the RPN website](#) to download an application.

- **Billion Dollar Green Challenge Launches**
The Sustainable Endowments Institute and 15 partner organizations launched the [Billion Dollar Green Challenge](#) on October 11, inviting colleges, universities and other nonprofits to invest a total of \$1 billion in self-managed green revolving funds that finance energy efficiency upgrades.

The Challenge is inspired by the exceptional performance of existing green revolving funds, which have a median annual return on investment of 32 percent. A bright spot in a rocky economy, these profitable investments are helping create green jobs in campus communities, while lowering operating costs on college and university campuses. Harvard, Stanford, Arizona State and other leading universities have already committed \$65 million to the initiative.

Guided by a 34-member expert advisory council, the Challenge offers technical assistance, best practices sharing, access to an advanced web-based tool for managing green revolving funds, peer institutions’ project-specific data and invitations to specialized webinars and conferences.

Upcoming Training, Events and Conferences

Webinar - State Electronics Challenge, November 3, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

ET

This free webinar is an opportunity to learn how to decrease the environmental footprint of your computer equipment through participation in the State Electronics Challenge. The Challenge is a free program that provides support to state, tribal, regional and local governments for lifecycle stewardship of their computer equipment. [Register online.](#)



Webinar - Purchasing for Water Efficiency, November 8, 2:00- 3:00 p.m. ET

According to the U.S. EPA, commercial buildings in the United States use at least 850 million gallons of water per day. This demand puts tremendous stress on water supplies and distribution systems, threatening human health and the environment. Spurred by recent droughts across the country and projections of future water shortages in at least 36 states, water scarcity has become a national concern.



Hosted by the Responsible Purchasing Network, this webinar will cover:

- A discussion of how water-efficiency improvements can lower water and sewer bills, and reduce energy costs
- An overview of EPA's WaterSense Program and a preview of how it plans to expand its reach to institutional and commercial buildings
- A look at how the city of Raleigh, NC developed their own water-efficiency specifications and achieved success with local water-efficiency rebates
- A case study highlighting how the city of Seattle significantly improved the water efficiency of their facilities.

[Register online.](#)

Free Energy Star Webinars—November

Visit the [Energy Star Training Center](#) for more information and to register for any of these sessions. (All webinars are Eastern Time.)



- Benchmarking in Portfolio Manager for State and Local Governments and EECBG Recipients, November 1, 2:00-3:15 p.m.
- IT Energy Savings for Non-Techies - Getting to Yes, November 3, 1:00-2:00 and November 15, 10:00-11:00
- Energy Star and Green Building Rating Systems, November 9, 2:00-3:30
- Responding to the Climate Change Imperative: Setting Energy Use Targets with Energy Star, November 15, 2:00-3:00
- Purchasing and Procuring Efficient Equipment, November 16, 1:00-2:00

