



March 2013  
Vol. 6, Iss. 3

## In this issue...

**KPPC Recognized for Helping Commercial and Industrial Facilities Build Self-Sustaining Energy Management Programs**

**Input Sought on Assessing Alternatives to Toxic Chemicals**

**Help Your Company Celebrate Earth Day**

**Energy Efficiency Services and Resources**

## Newsbits

- How the Largest IT Companies View Sustainable Supply-Chain Issues
- EPA Announces Chemicals for Risk Assessment in 2013, Focus on Widely Used Flame Retardants

**Upcoming Training, Events**

## KPPC Recognized for Helping Commercial and Industrial Facilities Build Self-Sustaining Energy Management Programs

At a March 26 awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., the U.S. EPA presented KPPC with a 2013 Energy Star Partner of the Year—Sustained Excellence Award for its continued leadership in protecting the environment through superior energy efficiency. An Energy Star partner since 2005, KPPC leverages the program's resources to help commercial and industrial facilities across the Commonwealth position themselves to significantly improve their energy efficiency over the long-term.

With the Center's support, these facilities are establishing sound energy management programs, changing the way they operate and turning to more energy efficient equipment and materials. These behavioral changes are leading to a sustained market change within the Commonwealth. In 2012, KPPC engineers conducted 33 on-site energy efficiency assessments that identified 127,392 MMBtu in potential energy savings with projected annual cost savings of \$1,256,370.

"EPA is recognizing KPPC for earning EPA's highest Energy Star award - the 2013 Partner of the Year—Sustained Excellence Award," said Bob Perciasepe, Acting Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "KPPC leads the field with their commitment to energy efficiency and demonstrates how all Americans can save energy, save money, and create a healthier environment."

KPPC was one of five Kentucky organizations to receive Energy Star awards this year.



*KPPC received the prestigious 2013 Energy Star Sustained Excellence Award at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. on March 26 for its continued leadership in progressing energy efficiency. The Center has been recognized as a Partner of the Year each year since 2011.*

[back to top](#)

## Input Sought on Assessing Alternatives to Toxic Chemicals

The Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse (IC<sub>2</sub>), an association of state, local and tribal governments, has announced that the draft guidance on alternatives assessment and chemical risk reduction is available for public review and comment through April 19. "Over the past year, eight of IC<sub>2</sub>'s state members have been working together to develop a draft framework for alternatives assessment," said Ken Zarker, Washington Department of Ecology and Vice-chair of the IC<sub>2</sub>. "We are coordinating our efforts to make the most of limited resources. Seeking public input is the next important step forward."

Alternatives Assessment (AA) is a process that encourages companies to consider the potential harm that alternative chemicals could have on human health and the environment before they are used in products. The IC<sub>2</sub> is seeking input on the draft guidance to leverage industry, government and non-government AA experiences. "States continue to provide leadership in an effort to advance sound chemical management strategies," Zarker said. "I'm optimistic that this alternatives assessment guidance will be a win-win for



## and Conferences

- ISO 50001 and Energy Management Systems Training, April 3, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. CT, Cookeville, TN
- Webinar: Make People Do Good Things (Sometimes Via Social Media), April 11, 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET

businesses and consumers. States are interested in providing economic opportunities through green product innovation, while allowing for more informed chemical choices.”

“As more states consider incorporating alternatives analyses requirements in their laws and regulations, this effort by IC2 to gather input from all potentially-affected stakeholders is important,” said Maureen Gorsen, Partner at Alston and Bird, and supporting member of the IC2. “This is a brand new area of law, and it is critical that good guidance be established.”

The draft guidance is based on an [alternatives assessment process pioneered by the U.S. EPA's Design for the Environment Program](#). A function of the IC2 is to support health and environmental agencies with the development and implementation of programs to promote the use of safer chemicals and products. After gathering and responding to input on the draft guidance, the IC2 members will seek businesses to pilot its use.

[back to top](#)

## Help Your Company Celebrate Earth Day

Make plans now - Earth Day is April 22. There are many ways for businesses to make a difference during Earth Day celebrations, either within their facilities or in the surrounding communities. Explore ways to join in local events and encourage your employees to participate.

Check out these websites for ideas about Earth Day activities:

- [Earth Day Network](#)
- [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- [Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet](#)
- [Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission](#)
- [Louisville Mayor's "Give A Day" of service, volunteer week April 13-21](#)

If you organize your own Earth Day event, make sure to register it with local and national groups.



[back to top](#)

## Energy Efficiency Services and Resources

Beginning in early 2013, KPPC experienced a reduction in funding which limits the Center's ability to conduct energy efficiency (E2)-related training activities or on-site facility assessments for industrial and commercial facilities across the Commonwealth. Requests for E2 assistance will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

The Center is seeking new sources of funding for E2 services, and updates will be posted on the KPPC website and in future issues of this newsletter. In the meantime, please see a March [message from Executive Director Cam Metcalf](#) for more information on KPPC's services and suggestions for other sources of E2 assistance.

[back to top](#)

## Newsbits

- **How the Largest IT Companies View Sustainable Supply-Chain Issues**

*From GreenBiz.com, part two of a series.* Malk Sustainability Partners, a specialty management consultancy that guides businesses in developing profitable corporate sustainability strategies, engaged global IT companies and industry experts to investigate the key drivers, important issues and popular strategies behind the sector's adoption of sustainable supply-chain management (SSCM). MSP synthesized this information into a study describing the state of SSCM in IT.

This installment will discuss issues identified by interview respondents as most pertinent to be addressed in their SSCM strategies. The most frequently mentioned concerns in the social and environmental categories are listed below.

Forty-two percent of respondents referenced social issues, the most prominent of which were:

- Conflict minerals
- Labor issues
- Human trafficking

Twenty-one percent highlighted environmental issues, the most prominent of which were:

- Greenhouse gas management
- Water pollution
- E-waste recycling and management

[Read the full article.](#)

#### ■ **EPA Announces Chemicals for Risk Assessment in 2013, Focus on Widely Used Flame Retardants**

This month, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it will begin assessments on 23 commonly used chemicals, with a specific focus on flame retardant chemicals, in order to more fully understand any potential risks to people's health and the environment. This effort is part of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Work Plan which identifies commonly used chemicals for risk assessment.



EPA will begin evaluating 20 flame retardant chemicals, conducting full risk assessments for four of the flame retardants, three of which are on the TSCA Work Plan, and one that was the subject of an Action Plan development under TSCA. In addition, EPA is assessing eight other flame retardants by grouping flame retardants with similar characteristics together with the chemicals targeted for full assessment. EPA will use the information from these assessments to better understand the other chemicals in the group, which currently lack sufficient data for a full risk assessment.

EPA will also begin analyzing how eight of the 20 flame retardant chemicals transform and move in the environment. These chemicals were selected because they are likely to persist in the environment, bioaccumulate in people and/or have high exposure potential, but there are not adequate data to conduct full risk assessments.

As EPA develops its draft risk assessments, the agency will use information that is available through a wide range of publicly available data sources. EPA also encourages submission of additional relevant information on these chemicals, such as unpublished studies and information on uses and potential exposures. This information should be submitted by May 30, 2013, to ensure that it is included in the agency's review.

A [full list of the chemicals announced for further assessment](#) is available on the EPA website.

[back to top](#)

## Upcoming Training, Events and Conferences

#### ■ **ISO 50001 and Energy Management Systems Training** **April 3, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. CT, Cookeville, TN**

ISO 50001 is the new International Standard for Energy Management Systems, with an emphasis on a continuous improvement process for reducing energy intensity, resulting in energy cost savings. The differences between this standard and other management systems will be explored. Practical applications will be stressed. Lessons learned from two Tennessee companies that have achieved ISO 50001 certification will be presented. Instructor - Dr. Ken Currie, Tennessee Tech University. CEU Credits can be awarded. The workshop will cost \$25, and take place at the Cookeville Chamber of Commerce, Leslie Town Center, 1 West First Street, Cookeville, TN 38501. To register, contact Megan Farris at the Chamber of Commerce, 931-526-2211 or [mfarris@cookevillechamber.com](mailto:mfarris@cookevillechamber.com).



#### ■ **Webinar: Make People Do Good Things (Sometimes Via Social Media)**

**April 11, 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET**

At the San Francisco Department of Environment, Jessian Choy led the creation of SFApproved.org to make it easier to buy over 1,000 green products. And she uses fun scavenger hunts to engage 28,000 City staff with draconian laws to buy green. Jessian leads negotiation and role-play trainings to prevent good ideas from dying with bad storytelling and hecklers. In this interactive event, get answers to these questions and more:

- What are new, easy tips to make it fun for people to do good things?
- How can you engage people if they unfollow or unlike you?
- What should you do so your audience tweets about your event during and after?

[Register for this free webinar](#) hosted by the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange.(P2Rx).

