

State Legislative/Regulatory Profile

STATE: **Kentucky**

CAPITOL CITY: Frankfort

GOVERNOR: Steven L. Beshear – second term (ends 12/31/15)

GENERAL ELECTIONS: First Tuesday in November

LEGISLATURE CONVENES:

The Kentucky Legislature convenes in Regular Session for 60 days on the first Tuesday in January of even numbered years, and for 30 days on the first Tuesday in January in odd-numbered years. It convenes in Special Sessions at the call of the Governor.

SENATE:

TERM: 4 years

PRESIDING OFFICER(S): Robert Stivers (R), President
David Givens (R), President Pro Tem
Damon Thayer (R), Majority Floor Leader
Dan Seum (R), Majority Caucus Chair
Jimmy Higdon (R), Majority Whip
Ray Jones (D), Minority Floor Leader
Gerald Neal (D), Minority Caucus Chair
Julian Carroll (D), Minority Whip

MAJOR UTILITY COMMITTEE: Natural Resources & Energy

CURRENT ISSUES: EPA Compliance Plans & Cost Recovery
Energy Efficiency
Environment/Carbon
Renewable Energy/Distributed Generation
Relief for Energy Intensive Industries in KY
Retirement of old Coal Units/Replacement with Gas

HOUSE:

TERM: 2 years

PRESIDING OFFICER(S): Greg Stumbo (D), Speaker of the House
Jody Richards (D), Speaker Pro Tem
Rocky Adkins (D), Majority Floor Leader
Sannie Overly (D), Majority Caucus Chair
Johnny Bell (D), Majority Whip
Jeff Hoover (R), Minority Floor Leader
Stan Lee (R), Minority Caucus Chair
Jim DeCesare (R), Minority Whip

MAJOR UTILITY COMMITTEE: Tourism Development and Energy
Natural Resources and Environment

CURRENT ISSUES: EPA Compliance Plans & Cost Recovery
Energy Efficiency
Environment/Carbon
Renewable Energy Standards

REGULATORY BODY: Kentucky Public Service Commission

MEMBERS: David Armstrong, Chairman (Term expires June 30, 2015)
James W. Gardner, Vice Chairman (Term expires June 30, 2016)
Daniel Logsdon, Commissioner (Term expires June 30, 2017)

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT/ELECTION:

The Public Service Commission consists of three members appointed by the Governor to 4-year staggered terms, with one commissioner appointed to act as Chairman and another as Vice Chairman. The Commission appoints an Executive Director who is responsible for the daily operation of the Commission.

CURRENT ISSUES: Environmental Cost Recovery Mechanism – EPA Mandates
Energy Efficiency/Demand Side Management
Retirement of old Coal Units/Replacement with Gas
Transmission Siting
Net Metering Standards
Renewable Energy Standards
Relief for Energy Intensive Industries in KY
Federal v State Authority over Transmission Grid
State Energy Policy