KENTUCKY CLEAN FUELS COALITION
Linking Kentucky's advanced transportation technology industry since 1993

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2026

Welcome to KCFC September 2026 Newsletter

This month marks an exciting new phase as we continue our expansion of electric vehicle infrastructure across the Commonwealth, welcome exceptional fresh talent to our internal team and explore groundbreaking heavy-duty commercial freight adoptions. We are also pleased to share a massive green campus initiative update from the Conn Center and formally invite our stakeholders to preview our fully updated web platform at our upcoming annual meeting on November 2nd.

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Program Director's Message

Program Director's Message

Dear KCFC Members, Partners, and Stakeholders:

Welcome to the September 2026 edition of the Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition (KCFC) Newsletter! Building upon the strategic infrastructure targets outlined last month, our team is executing our commercial corridor plans with absolute focus—advancing clean transportation and accelerating alternative fuel deployment across the Commonwealth.

This past month has seen an unprecedented level of field activity as we translate our regional deployments into operational realities. A key operational priority remains the continuous, seamless rollout of public and private electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. To move these heavy infrastructure installations forward effectively, our team is working with equipment vendors, alongside local site hosts and regional utilities. This collective effort ensures that physical site designs, grid alignments, and hardware deployments stay strictly on schedule.

Concurrently, logistics are solidifying rapidly for the **2026 KCFC Annual Meeting** coming up on November 2nd. Following our venue walkthrough at Kentucky State University's Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm, we are preparing a highly collaborative environment that pairs agricultural innovation with alternative fuels. We need your strong support and participation in the annual meeting.

We are energized by the steady progress taking root across Kentucky and look forward to working alongside all of you to build a cleaner, more resilient transportation network. We sincerely request

you to join KCFC as a stakeholder or a member and support our larger goal of protecting Human Health and the Environment!

Thank you for your continued engagement, partnership, and support as we work together toward a more sustainable future.

Sincerely,
Jagannadh Satyavolu, Ph.D.
Program Director
Kentucky Clean City and Communities Partnership
Endowed Chair in Renewable Energy Research
Theme Leader – Biomass Conversion and Biofuels
Conn Center for Renewable Energy Research
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Staffing Update: Argonne Interns

Argonne National Laboratory Internship Placement

KCFC team is delighted to welcome two talented student interns executing technical tracks under the **Argonne National Laboratory Intern Acceleration Program**. This specialized program bridges the gap between major academic research and federal laboratory deployments, accelerating the development of the next generation of clean energy leaders.

Our new interns will directly assist our technical staff with data collection, grid impacts, and corridor field logging over the fall term. Please join us in welcoming our new cohorts:

- **Caroline Hortin** – An undergraduate Chemical Engineering student from the **University of Kentucky**, focusing on technical evaluation and alternative fuel data metrics.
- **Vasty Jean-François** – A Sustainability Program student from the **University of Louisville**, supporting regional community outreach and ecosystem planning.

Current Project Activities: September 2026

Continuous Vendor Collaboration & EV Site Development
Following up with the regional collaborations launched last month, KCFC is sustaining its momentum through daily technical coordination with primary equipment vendors.

This month, our focus shifted from initial site exploration to deep-dive field engineering. Our team conducted intensive site visits with our vendors to finalize precise project estimates. Thanks to these efforts, engineering blueprints and cost structures are completely locked in, making our finalized implementation proposals ready for submission across **8 potential infrastructure**

locations, including partner hotels, local university campuses, and our own dedicated KCFC administrative headquarters.

Announcement: KCFC Annual Meeting

2026 KCFC Annual Meeting is scheduled for **November 2nd** at Kentucky State University.



- **Theme**: Advancing Kentucky's clean fuels and sustainable energy initiatives in agriculture.
- **Featured Exhibition**: A live showcase of alternative-fuel and electric farm equipment from leading agricultural manufacturers.
- **Venue**: Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm at Kentucky State University.
- **Cost:** Free (No registration fee)**.**

To ensure accurate spatial allocations and complete coordination with our local event caterers, all attendees must submit their registration details online.

Click the tractor to RSVP to our 2026 Annual Meeting!
Please complete your registration before October 15th.



Exclusive Event Spotlight: Brand New Webpage Launch!

The Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition has been rewriting its online presence! On November 2, 2026 KCFC will officially launch our newly updated website. The redesigned platform has undergone changes to help audience usage, direct vendor matching programs, corridor maps, and alternative fuelling stations map.

Fleet Spotlight: A Candid Interview with General Electric (GE)

KCFC members recently sat down with Mr. Harry Chase, Senior Director of Central Materials at GE Appliances in Louisville, KY and a Board Member of KCFC, to discuss their aggressive multi-state deployment of commercial alternative-fuel vehicles. GE currently operates 10 fully electric trucks in Kentucky, with plans to deploy 1 more by the end of September, tracking an average of 250 miles per day using on-site charging stations. While their current collaboration with M&M for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) vehicles accounts for only 10% of their operations, GE has major expansion plans ahead. This includes adding 2 Tesla trucks and a 1 GW charging setup to their 12-truck Georgia fleet this October to run 550 miles per day, alongside deploying driverless autonomous electric trucks from Einride, two are running in Tennessee, while three are coming soon to Kentucky.



Figure: GE Electric Truck

He mentioned that according to the feedback from the ground, drivers report that the vehicles are soundproof, easy to maintain, and exciting to operate. However, scaling up comes with clear infrastructure challenges; Mr. Chase noted that their facility's power requirements are too high to establish Level 3 charging under the Volkswagen Settlement program, especially when pushing batteries past the 80% threshold. Instead, GE is highly interested in deploying corridor-based top-up charging points along their routes to maintain operational flexibility.

Beyond vehicles, GE is heavily prioritizing clean generation, with wind power mills already supplying significant amount of their current power input and structured plans to incorporate solar options in the future.

KCFC extends its sincere gratitude to Mr. Chase for sharing these invaluable operational insights. We look forward to ongoing discussion and exploring potential avenues for future cooperation with the GE Appliances team as they continue to explore sustainable logistics solutions across the region.

Special Article: Green Campus Initiatives with Dr. W. Mark McGinley

The KCFC team recently met with Dr. McGinley, Director of Conn Center for Renewable Energy Research, University of Louisville (UofL), to gather his valuable insights about campus green initiatives. He mentioned that the Conn Center continues to drive high-visibility demonstrations of clean technology deployments directly within our institutional footprint.

Our newest milestone features a massive green initiative at UofL's newly constructed Speed School of Engineering building, the **Engineering Student Success & Research Building (ESSRB)**. This state-of-the-art facility has officially adopted a solar framework designed to generate clean and renewable power directly for the building's operations. **The structure features 60kW solar PV panels generously donated by Canadian Solar**. To officially activate and start up the system, the team is currently seeking donations to secure and integrate the industrial inverters and battery storage systems required to complete the setup. To optimize this generation infrastructure, they are also working to design an advanced localized microgrid system that will act as a smart buffer, balancing loads and managing power fluctuations to ensure seamless grid stability.

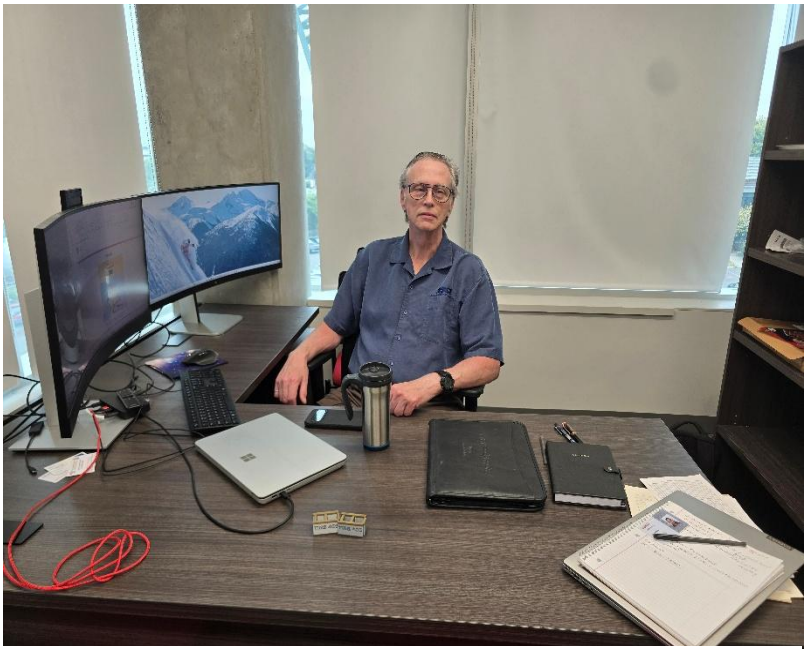


Figure: Dr. W. Mark McGinlev

Beyond solar energy, Dr. McGinley highlighted that the **ESSRB facility utilizes geothermal energy derived from ground water to fulfill its energy requirements**, **utilizing ground source heat pumps to make it a highly energy-efficient building.** Furthermore, the **facility serves as a hands-on tool for teaching**; students are actively modeling the actual energy performance of the building to learn innovative ways to improve its efficiency even further. Looking ahead, they plan to add high-capacity Level 3 DC Fast EV Charging Stations powered directly by the rooftop PV systems.

"*Using local power generation, ground-source geothermal systems, and hands-on student modeling, the ESSRB building stands as a living example of institutional sustainability across the Commonwealth".*

We sincerely thank Dr. McGinley for sharing his time, technical expertise, and vision for a cleaner campus infrastructure.

Other Items of Interest

2026 Annual Conference, Expo, & Awards Luncheon

Join the Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC) as they celebrate **15 years of Clean Energy Leadership**. This cutting-edge conference includes industry-specific breakout

sessions, an alternative vehicle ride-and-drive showcase, and unparalleled fleet networking opportunities.

- **Date:** October 22, 2026
- **Registration & Details:** GWRCCC Event Portal

North Texas Facilities Expo 2026

Returning for its 24th annual show, this expo brings together the facilities engineering, green building, and clean transit operations communities. It provides an excellent forum for learning about the latest energy management, commercial infrastructure, and HVAC/MRO technologies.

- **Date:** October 14–15, 2026
- **Registration & Details:** Facilities Expo Home

EPA Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Grants

The U.S. EPA is offering approximately $180 million in funding to upgrade or replace legacy diesel fleets with cleaner technologies. This program supports projects that reduce diesel emissions to improve public health and local air quality.

- **Deadline:** January 22, 2027
- **Registration & Details:** EPA DERA National Grants

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A U.S. Department of Energy initiative dedicated to advancing clean transportation nationwide

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