A Message from KRC's Executive Director

Dear Friends,

2022 was a busy year here at the Kentucky Resources Council! Because of your generosity and continued support, we expanded our reach, providing more than $1.5 million worth of legal services across the Commonwealth, a 26% increase from last year. Fitz and I spent the year transitioning our roles and cases, and working closely together to make sure the Council continues to build on its strong legacy of environmental protection, in pursuit of environmental health, justice, and equity.

We're happy to announce that Fitz will be continuing with KRC as “of Counsel.” We'll be together in Frankfort during the 2023 General Assembly, working to protect the Commonwealth’s natural resources and the health of our citizens and communities. As always, our team will be analyzing and tracking legislative bills and environmental issues of concern, and keeping you updated on those we support and oppose. Many challenges and opportunities await us in the new year, and we are ready to meet them!

Thank you for being a part of what makes the Council work and for sharing our passion and urgency in protecting Kentucky’s land, air, water, and communities.
Happy New Year,
Ashley Wilmes
Executive Director

Read our 2022 Annual Report and learn what else we have been up to this year.

Know that none of this work would have been possible without you. You enabled us to go before courts and the legislature to protect the Commonwealth's natural resources and communities; to inform and empower Kentuckians and fight alongside them for environmental justice; and to hold our government accountable.

Help us make 2023 just as successful and make a donation before the end of the year.

The Environmental Cost of Cryptocurrency
The Council and Earthjustice are representing Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Kentucky Solar Energy Society, Mountain Association, Appalachian Citizens' Law Center, and Sierra Club in several cases before the Public Service Commission involving utilities’ proposed special contracts with cryptocurrency operations.

Cryptocurrency mining is an under-regulated and extremely energy-intensive process, which threatens the ability of governments across the globe to reduce our dependence on climate-warming fossil fuels. Despite claims of economic development used to justify incentives for these crypto operations, data shows they actually create few jobs. The participation of the Council and our allies in these cases is important both for protecting the public from special contracts with these companies at the expense of ratepayers, and in highlighting the climate impacts of these operations.

Learn More
A new Guidebook from Earthjustice and Sierra Club, The Energy Bomb: How Proof-of-Work Cryptocurrency Mining Worsens the Climate Crisis and Harms Communities Now, discusses this growing industry and its false claims to sustainability.
Join Our Team
In January 2023, KRC is launching a new program, Good Trouble: a Proposal for Coordinated Strategies and Actions in Pursuit of Environmental Health and Justice in Kentucky. Working with allied organizations and supported by technical and legal experts, we are designing a comprehensive environmental permit review training program for citizens and attorneys. This initiative will advance environmental protection, health, and justice across the Commonwealth by combining meaningful citizen participation, science-backed information and analysis, and technical and legal expertise to ensure that Kentucky’s environmental decisions are protective of public health and the environment. This project will, for the first time, provide the resources here in Kentucky to empower the public to participate in the permitting processes in the robust and consistent manner envisioned by our nation’s environmental laws.

To help us launch this program, we are now hiring for:

- Environmental Permitting Specialist
- Program Attorney
- Legal Fellow

[Learn more about the positions and apply!](https://mailchi.mp/kyrc/january-2023)
Open Applications for KRC Board
Do you care strongly for Kentucky's environment? Do you have a passion for helping nonprofits grow and make a bigger impact in our society? Maybe now is the time to apply to become an officer of the Kentucky Resources Council Board.

Applications are opened now through the end of the year.

Questions about Board service? Email ashley@kyrc.org.

FROM OUR FRIENDS

A solar farm for Louisville?
A virtual event about making renewable energy a reality
Wednesday, January 11, 7-8:30pm | Zoom
A solar power installation in Louisville could go a long way to meeting the city's renewable energy goal. A virtual event in January will explore how that could become a reality.

On January 11 an event titled “REAL Good News” will hold its ninth in a series of quarterly public Zoom meetings aimed at making sure Louisville implements its green energy goals. In 2020 the Metro Council passed a resolution to move the city’s operations to 100% clean renewable electricity by 2030. That resolution also sets a goal of 100% clean energy for the entire Louisville community by 2040.

January's event will feature a description of a solar project that's underway in Hart County, and the steps required to build a similar project in Louisville.

Speakers:

• Rob Kalbouss, project manager for the Thoroughbred Solar Installation in Hart County
Music by Louisville musician and activist John Gage will open and close the event. People attending will also be encouraged to attend Metro Council meetings to speak in favor of implementing Louisville's clean energy resolution.

The REAL Good News event will run from 7 to 8:30 January 11.

**Event Sponsors**

- 100%REAL
- Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light
- Christian Action group of St. Paul United Methodist Church

**Register**

The event is free but registration is required. [https://tinyurl.com/3tuzpzm5](https://tinyurl.com/3tuzpzm5)

**More Information**

More information is available at the 100%REAL website: [https://renewableenergylouisville.org/events.html](https://renewableenergylouisville.org/events.html)