# Municipal Power News



Lebanon Utilities Volume 28, Issue 1 | Spring 2023



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## Lebanon Utilities Recognized on National Level

his April, Lebanon's electric utility was awarded the American Public Power Association (APPA) Certificate of Excellence in Reliability for the calendar year of 2022. The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, communityowned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. The organization partners with its members to promote public power and protect the interests of the 49 million Americans that public power utilities serve, as well as the 96,000 people they employ. Each year, APPA is proud to award outstanding public power utilities across the country who have made special efforts to supply their customers.

APPA's Certificate of Excellence in Reliability honors utilities whose power outage records compare exceedingly well against national statistics supplied by the federal Energy Information Administration. Recipients of the certificate fell in the top quartile of all utilities' System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI)—a metric that accounts for the total time that an average utility customer experiences a power interruption in one year. Even the

## IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott

rom December 22 to the 26 of 2022, Winter Storm Elliott swept across North America, causing record low temperatures and severe winter conditions throughout the United States. Snowfall, ice, and blizzard-like conditions blew through much of the Midwest while hazardous road conditions kept many of us hunkered down inside through the holidays. During these days of subzero temperatures, approximately 1.5 million utility customers throughout the country lost power (according to www.poweroutage.us).

Fortunately, Indiana utility customers were only a small portion of those without power, and the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) worked diligently with neighboring utilities and the state's Regional Transmission Organizations to ensure the reliability of the power grid. IMPA's seven combustion turbines-totaling 249 megawatts (MW) of capacity in Anderson, Indiana, and Richmond, Indiana-were staffed and operational winter The through the storm. Anderson and Richmond units are run by IMPA employees who worked day and night through December's winter storm to ensure power was delivered to utility customers. These units,

which primarily run on natural gas and are built to operate in temperatures down to -20 degrees Fahrenheit, are a vital dispatchable resource in extreme weather events due to their capability to utilize ultra-low sulfur No. 2 fuel oil as a backup. The backup fuel allowed the units to run and provide power during the whole severe winter weather event.

Other staff members who were out in the field during the cold weather event included IMPA Service Corp's linemen and operations employees who responded to outages in member communities. During Winter Storm Elliott, IMPA Service Corp's crews responded to eight IMPA member communities to assist with power restoration to keep utility customers warm in their homes.

IMPA is grateful to the dedicated staff members who braved the historic winter conditions to ensure the rest of us could remain safe and warm at home. The Agency's reliability, whether during a typical day or an extreme period of uncertainty, is its upmost priority. Now, as we head toward the warmer weather of spring, IMPA looks forward to continuing its legacy of reliable operations and excellent electric service for all member communities.•

# How Does Reliable Electricity Reach Me?

Your power is unique as it is distributed not by a for-profit electric utility, but rather by your municipally-owned, locally controlled electric utility. Your municipal electric utility—also known as a "public power" utility—receives its power from the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, a not-for-profit organization created by 61 public power utilities in the Midwest. This is where your electricity begins!

STEP1

IMPA is the wholesale power provider to your community, meaning that it produces or purchases electricity (depending on what is most economically advantageous) and transmits that energy to your local utility. IMPA's power supply portfolio is made up of coal, natural gas, solar, wind, and nuclear energy. By providing its member communities with power from multiple sources, IMPA can maintain stable costs.

STEP 2

Once the power is generated, no matter from which type of resource, a set of equipment located within a substation is used to "step up" the electricity's voltage. A higher voltage means that the electricity can travel longer distances over high-voltage transmission lines with lower energy losses.



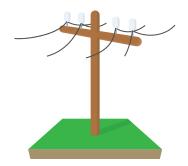


# STEP 3

Once "stepped-up," the electricity is sent along transmission lines, allowing it to reach IMPA's member communities. IMPA jointly owns a portion of the state's transmission system, which covers about 2/3 of Indiana.

STEP 4

Once the electricity reaches a community like yours, it is "stepped down" by a local substation, bringing the power to a lower voltage that will allow it to travel on your local community's distribution power lines.





#### STEP 5

The power then travels along local distribution lines owned by your public power utility to reach homes and businesses in the community.

Municipal Power News

# **Tidbits & Trivia**

The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) is a not-for-profit organization that provides a low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible power supply to its members. IMPA provides this wholesale power to 61 communities in Indiana and Ohio, who collectively make up the Agency's membership.

Question: What is one benefit of driving an electric vehicle rather than a gas-powered car?



Send your answer to newsletter@impa.com, along with your name, e-mail address, and address for a chance to win an energy efficiency prize pack!

## **Reader Survey**

Is there more about your community that you would like to know? Do you have questions about how public power or your municipally-owned utility works? Would you like to learn more tips and tricks as to how you can improve your home's energy efficiency?

Reach out to newsletter@impa.com to suggest topics for future Municipal Power News newsletters and let us know what articles you enjoy most, and what you'd like to see next!



## **Lebanon Utilities**

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public power utilities who did not make the top quartile tended to skew better than other types of utilities, showing that most public power utilities are above average in reliability compared to all US providers. With Lebanon Utilities making the top quartile, the community can truly claim that its electric system is among the "best of the best!"

"It's encouraging to see year after year that public power's track record for providing highly reliable service is backed up by data," said APPA Director of Research and Development Paul Zummo. "These utilities are the best of the best when it comes to keeping the lights on. And these communities should be proud of their local power providers and appreciate the hard work that goes into earning this recognition."



Lebanon Utilities joins four other Indiana communities on the list of awardees—Greenfield, Peru, Richmond, and Tell City. Each of these cities is a proud member of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), Lebanon's not-for-profit, wholesale power provider. Leaders of IMPA are thrilled to see its member utilities receive the distinction for reliable service.

"We strive to support our members

### What's the Word?

#### **Gas Turbine Plant**

noun

A facility which uses natural gas or other liquid fuels to power a combustion turbine and generate electricity. The first true gas turbine was patented in 1791!

## Linemen Dedicated to Community

When the weather is at its worst, Lebanon Utility lineworkers are there, restoring power and safety in the community. When your city seeks residential, commercial, or industrial growth, your local lineworkers are there, ensuring developments have access to electricity. When it seems like a normal day, your city's lineworkers are there, performing preventative maintenance and trimming trees to ensure reliability of

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to the best of our ability so that they can succeed, and it's great to see our communities recognized at the national level," said Jack Alvey, IMPA President and CEO. "We know that these awards are the culmination of a tremendous amount of work by every employee at a utility. Lebanon's electric utility continues to demonstrate how valuable of a public power utility they are in their community."•

IMPA owns seven combustion turbines and associated facilities totaling 419 MW in the aggregate. These include three units in Anderson, IN, two near Richmond, IN, and two in Indianapolis, IN. IMPA employees operate and maintain the combustion turbines located in Anderson and Richmond, while the plant in Indianapolis is operated and maintained under a contract with a separate utility that has two other units at the same facility.

For a chance to be featured in the newsletter and win a prize, send your recipe to:

**MPN** Recipes 11610 N. College Ave. Carmel. IN 46032 or <u>newsletter@impa.com</u>

The MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS is a periodic publication of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the 61 communities that it serves with wholesale power.

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# **Cooking Corner**

#### **Broccoli** Casserole

Recipe submitted by Kimberly of Paoli, Indiana

- 2 lbs broccoli, frozen or cooked - 1 roll ritz crackers, crumbled - 1/2 lb velveeta, cubed -1 stick butter divided in half

Cook broccoli according to package directions. Add velveeta and 1/2 stick butter. Cook until melted. Butter a 2 at casserole dish. Pour broccoli into casserole dish. Pour crumbled crackers on top. Melt remaining 1/2 stick butter and pour on crackers. Bake on 350 degrees for 30 minutes and enjoy!

### White Mountain Salad

Recipe submitted by Jean of Middletown, Indiana

- 1 small can crushed pineapple (in iuice)

- 1 can Eagle brand milk

- 1 can chopped pecans
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 eight oz tub cool whip
- (thawed)

In a large bowl, stir all ingredients together. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours.

"When I take this recipe to a dinner, I always get several requests for the recipe!" - Jean

Advance Anderson Argos Bainbridge Bargersville Blanchester, OH Bremen Brooklyn Brookston Centerville Chalmers Coatesville Columbia City

Covington Crawfordsville Darlington Dublin Dunreith Edinburgh Etna Green Flora Frankfort Frankton Gas City Greendale Greenfield

Huntingburg Jamestown Jasper **Kingsford Heights** Knightstown Ladoga Lawrenceburg Lebanon Lewisville Linton Middletown Montezuma New Ross

Paoli Pendleton Peru Pittsboro Rensselaer Richmond Rising Sun Rockville Scottsburg South Whitlev Spiceland Straughn Tell City

Thorntown Tipton Troy Veedersburg Walkerton Washington Wavnetown Williamsport Winamac

## How Do I Save Energy in Hot Weather?

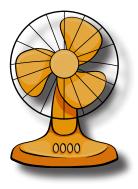
Last year, we asked *Municipal Power News* readers, "What are some of the methods you use the reduce your energy consumption in hot weather?" Here's what Kenneth had to say!

"Our answer at home is to close the drapes, blinds, and try to cook with the air fryer, microwave, or outside on the grill instead of using the stove or oven on the really hot days. We've already purchased new thermo sliding glass doors with blinds and low-e ratings. We've also spray-foamed the basement walls and the underside of the roof. For a 1964 house, we feel pretty efficient.

At work, we try to close the blinds and raise the thermostat a degree or two. We also bought two digital smart thermostats and replaced the old mercury bulb sliders."

-Kenneth E

That's a great answer, full of energy efficiency tips! Below are a few other ways you and your family can save on energy this summer.

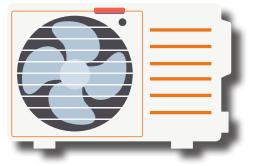


#### **Energy Efficiency Tip #1**

Use fans around your home to circulate cool air. Set ceiling fans to turn counter clockwise, as this will push air down and create a cooler feeling in the room.

#### **Energy Efficiency Tip #2**

Replace air filters in your home with each season. Dirty air filters can cause your system to work harder and longer, using unecessary energy as a result.





#### Energy Efficiency Tip #3

Keep lamps and TV sets away from your thermostat. Thermostats can sense the heat that these items give off, which can cause the A/C to run longer than required. Indiana Municipal Power Agency 11610 N. College Ave. Carmel, IN 46032 PRE-SORTED STANDARD U.S. Postage PAID Indianapolis, IN Permit # 9555



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IMPA Commissioner: Ed Basquill

### **Linemen Dedicated**

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Lebanon's electric system. When your community needs them most, your lineworkers are there.

Though we don't typically think of all the work that goes into reliable electricity, we are certainly more aware of it when the power goes out. This April brought several storms, high winds, and tornados throughout the entire state of Indiana, causing power outages for dozens of Hoosier communities, including Lebanon. Your local linemen worked through these storms to bring power back to city residents and business owners as swiftly as possible. Even after the storms passed and outages were restored, Lebanon's lineworkers traveled to the neighboring community of Frankfort to assist with restoration work in their community.

Thank you to Lebanon's electric lineworkers for the dedication that they show to helping Hoosiers have access to reliable power! •

