# Municipal Power News

#### Anderson Municipal Light & Power Volume 28, Issue 1 | Spring 2023



## **Inside this Issue**

#### Page 2

*IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott* Winter storm reminds the utility industry of the importance of reliability.

#### Page 4

*Tidbits and Trivia* Give your answer for a chance to win a prize from IMPA!

#### Page 7

How Do I Save Energy in Hot Weather? See how readers of the newsletter responded to this question.

# Are You Ready if the Power Goes Out?

As your municipally-owned electric utility, Anderson Municipal Light & Power (AML&P) performs routine maintenance and electric system upgrades to keep the city's reliability as consistent as possible. However, unforeseen circumstances can always occur and cause power interruptions, especially as spring and summer bring unpredictable weather conditions. AML&P wants to make sure that you and your family are prepared for those unpredictable situations when the power goes out.

One thing AML&P highly recommends is creating a power outage kit—a collection of supplies that can help you through a prolonged outage. See how many items you have on the power outage kit checklist:

- Water—one gallon per person (or animal!) in your household is recommended
- Flashlights or battery-operated lanterns and appropriate batteries
- A first aid kit
- Non-perishable food items
- A cooler, in case you need to move food from your refrigerator to keep it safe
- A weather radio
- Portable phone chargers

-continued on page 4

# 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.



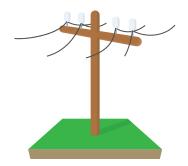


# STEP 3

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 gaspowered car?

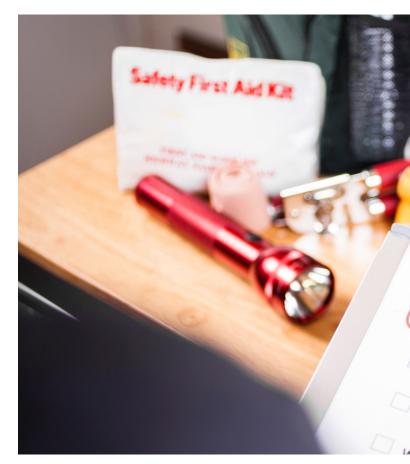


Send your answer to **newsletter@impa.com**, along with your name, e-mail address, and address for a chance to win an energy efficiency prize pack!

# **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!



## Are You Ready

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Having an emergency preparedness kit with these items makes dealing with an outage much easier. In the event of an outage, the first thing you should do is gather everyone in the home to ensure everyone is safe, then distribute lights and equipment that may be needed from the kit. Next, **let AML&P know that you are experiencing a power outage by calling their emergency line at** (765) 648-6484.

Once the utility is aware of your situation, it's advisable to unplug all of your electronic devices from outlets to prevent potential damage from a power surge once electricity is restored. An unopened refrigerator can stay cold for up to four hours, but if an outage goes beyond this limit, be sure to store perishable food items in your cooler. If you have a generator



for backup power, always run it outdoors and away from windows to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.

If you have life support equipment that makes restoring your power a priority, AML&P recommends that you have back up equipment in case of a prolonged outage. The utility office maintains a list of customers who depend on this equipment. To verify your information is on AML&P's priority list, please call the utility office at (765) 648-6187. In the case of a planned outage, the life support customers affected by the outage will be notified of the outage prior to the actual event.

During an outage, utility customers can receive updates from AML&P if they are registered with the utility's outage database. To update your phone number within this database, you can visit AML&P's Outage Center on the City of Anderson's website at <u>www.cityofanderson.com/634/Outage-Center</u>. This website will also provide updates on outages that can be viewed by any utility customers during a power interruption in the utility's service territory.

While AML&P takes every step necessary to restore power as quickly and safely as possible, the utility's personnel want to make sure you and your loved ones remain safe too. Please follow this guide when you experience an outage so that we can all ensure our community is as safe as possible.

As always, you can call (765) 648-6187 for non-emergency inquiries and speak to a Customer Service Representative Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm.•

### 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! 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

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## How Do I Save Energy in Hot Weather?

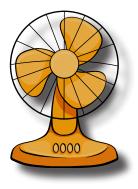
Last year, we asked *Municipal Power News* readers, "What are some of the methods you use the reduce your energy consumption in hot weather?" Here's what Kenneth had to say!

"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.

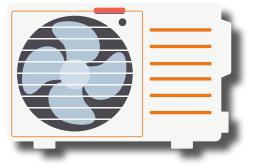


#### **Energy Efficiency Tip #1**

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**

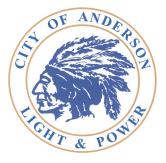
Replace air filters in your home with each season. Dirty air filters can cause your system to work harder and longer, using unecessary energy as a result.





#### 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: Tony Pochard

## **Cook with Safety in Mind!**

o many of us, cooking is such a mundane daily task that we often don't remember how dangerous it can be if things get out of hand. Prevention is always the best way to protect yourself from electric and fire hazards, so make sure you're following these tips next time you whip something up in the kitchen:

- Never leave cooking food unattended, whether on the stovetop or in a microwave
- Make sure your kitchen and bathrooms have GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) protected outlets
- Unplug appliances when not in use
- Make sure you have working smoke alarms and never disable a smoke alarm when cooking •

