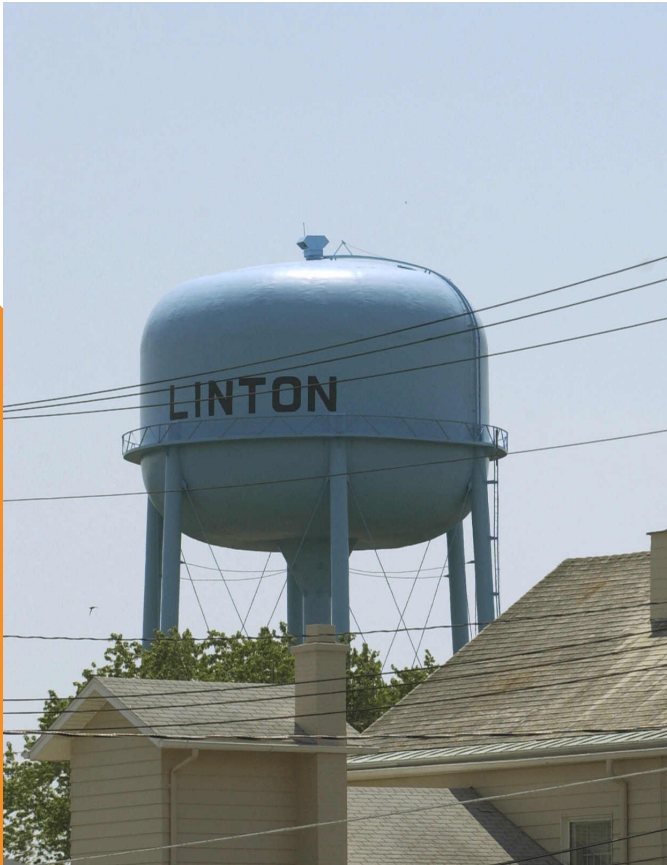


# Municipal Power News



Linton Municipal Utilities  
Volume 28, Issue 1 | Summer 2023



## Electric Utility Maintains Reliability

Linton's electric utility workers are committed to providing reliable power to residents and business owners in the community. With this responsibility comes a variety of day-to-day tasks and projects required to continue supplying excellent electric service.

One such project is the regular trimming of trees to ensure that tree limbs and plant growth never interfere with local electric infrastructure. Removing hazardous trees, pruning limbs, and trimming low-lying brush around Linton's electric infrastructure is one of the largest preventive measures that the utility can take to improve local reliability. If left unmanaged, tree limbs that touch power lines can drain electricity off the electrical system, resulting in voltage loss. Even worse, tree limbs touching power lines put constant stress on live wires and can potentially create a fire hazard or cause a power outage. Your local linemen's dedication to maintaining healthy trees that are trimmed away from power lines help Linton's utility ensure the high-quality electric service that they've provided for 120 years.

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Winter storm reminds the utility industry of the importance of reliability.

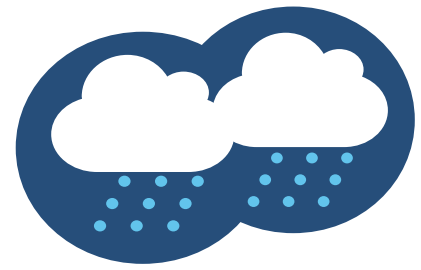
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See how readers of the newsletter responded to this question.

# IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott



From 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 sub-zero temperatures, approximately 1.5 million utility customers throughout the country lost power (according to [www.poweroutage.us](http://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 through the winter storm. The 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!

## STEP 1

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.



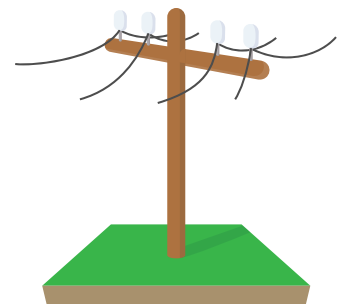
## STEP 3

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.



# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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!



## Electric Utility

-continued from page 1

Additionally, while the city's electric system is in normal working condition, some equipment like utility poles and electric lines could be approaching the end of their lifespan. As the demand for electricity continues to climb and technological advances in the energy sector rapidly evolve, it has become imperative for electric utilities across the nation to modernize their infrastructure for the good of local communities. Not to mention, faulty and outdated equipment is one of a few common causes for power interruptions in all utilities. Due to these factors, Linton's utility proactively undertakes several infrastructure improvements to maintain and upgrade reliability of the local electric system.

For example, Linton's lineworkers have focused on utility pole replacements since having an evaluation of local infrastructure





performed by IMPA Service Corp in recent years. IMPA Service Corp is the engineering and operations subsidiary of the city's wholesale power provider, and they collaborated with Linton's utility to complete a comprehensive analysis of all poles in the utility's service territory. Since then, the local utility has used the data from this analysis to effectively update its infrastructure, first prioritizing poles that were deemed to be in

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critical condition, and gradually transitioning to those that are less urgent. This project is just one of the many long-term planning efforts that the utility puts into motion to ensure a bright future for Linton.

“A healthy electric infrastructure betters the quality of life for everyone in the community,” said Brent Slover, Linton's General Manager of Utilities and IMPA Commissioner.

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## 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.

# 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 qt 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 juice)
- 1 can chopped pecans
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 eight oz tub cool whip (thawed)
- 1 can Eagle brand milk

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

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  
[newsletter@impa.com](mailto:newsletter@impa.com)

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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# How Do I Save Energy in Hot Weather?

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

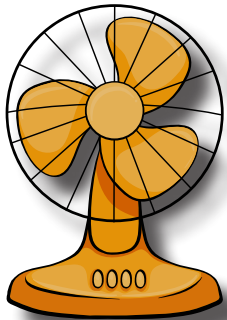
*“Our answer at home is to close the drapes, blinds, and try to cook with the air fryer, microwave, or outside on the grill instead of using the stove or oven on the really hot days. We’ve already purchased new thermo sliding glass doors with blinds and low-e ratings. We’ve also spray-foamed the basement*

*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.

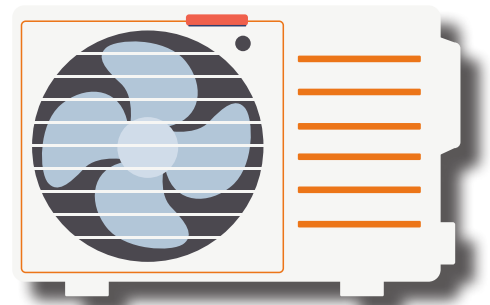


## Energy Efficiency Tip #1

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.

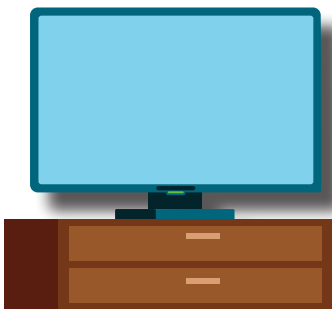
## Energy Efficiency Tip #2

Replace air filters in your home with each season. Dirty air filters can cause your system to work harder and longer, using unnecessary 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.



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The Municipal Power News is published  
by the Indiana Municipal Power  
Agency and Linton Municipal Utilities.

IMPA Commissioner: Brent Slover

## Electric Utility

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“Every day that our line crews are out in the field completing maintenance work, our biggest goal is keeping the lights on for local families, friends, and neighbors.”

Not only does good quality electric service affect local customers directly, but it serves to attract potential industries and businesses who heavily consider the condition of a region’s utilities. In the end, high quality utilities lead to increased well-being in citizens, potential job opportunities, and general improvements to the city’s economy. •

