

# Municipal Power News



Edinburgh Municipal Utilities

Volume 28, Issue 2 | Fall 2023

## Meet Edinburgh's New Town Manager

On June 13, Edinburgh welcomed Kevin McGinnis as the community's new Town Manager. In this role, he now manages several departments and oversees the administrative tasks and operations of the town. With a love for the community and decades of experience in management roles, McGinnis is well equipped to serve Edinburgh.

McGinnis moved to Johnson County from the southside of Indianapolis around 47 years ago after marrying his wife, who was also from the Indy area. Before working with municipalities, he started as a home builder, pursuing land development and directing professionals to complete construction projects. Management has always come natural to McGinnis, so when the housing market began facing difficulty around 2009, he transitioned into the role of



Town Manager for Bargersville, IN. After spending four years with Bargersville, he served the town of Whiteland as a

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See how readers of the newsletter responded to this question.

# 40 Years of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency



The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) began with a single idea to enable municipally-owned utilities to join and share power resources for a more reliable and cost-effective future. Before the formation of the Agency, individual municipal utilities in Indiana only had limited access to power supply options, and their small size kept them vulnerable to the changing energy market. However, the founders of IMPA believed in the adage of “strength in numbers,” and sought to withstand these challenges by working together. In 1979, representatives of 11 Indiana municipally-owned utilities organized themselves into a Joint Action Committee to investigate the feasibility of uniting into a joint action agency, which would allow them to share generation resources and bulk purchase power at a mutually beneficial low cost.

By 1980, Indiana state legislation was passed allowing the 11 representative communities to unite in the purchase of

wholesale electric power and transmission services, as well as issue bonds to pay for the cost of projects. This allowed the formation of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, which had its first operating year in 1983—40 years ago.

In four decades, IMPA has been through a vast number of changes, but has always remained true to its strong founding mission of providing a low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible power supply to its members. Through the years, the Agency’s membership has grown from 11 Hoosier communities to 61 towns, cities, and villages in Indiana and Ohio. The Agency has also grown to offer services beyond power supply, including economic development assistance, marketing and communications support, and government relations work. IMPA also formed its operations and engineering subsidiary—IMPA Service Corp—in 2001 to provide a cost-effective resource for members regarding engineering work, rate studies, and electric system management. These services continue to strengthen IMPA’s membership for the betterment of public power utility customers across the Midwest.

IMPA initially began in 1983 with 24.95% ownership in a coal-fired baseload generating facility called Gibson 5 in southwestern Indiana. As the Agency’s membership grew throughout the decades, IMPA would come to acquire additional power supply resources to support its



*Some of the founders of IMPA*

members and incorporate diverse fuel types into its portfolio. By 2023, IMPA has added seven combustion turbines operated primarily on natural gas, four with fuel oil backup for reliability, to its resources, as well as joint-ownership in other coal-fired power plants in Kentucky and Illinois. The Agency has also incorporated power purchase agreements of nuclear, wind, and solar power into its power supply portfolio.

Since 2014, IMPA has also developed its own solar power program—constructing 44 solar parks in member communities throughout Indiana. This solar park initiative has played an integral role in building the renewable portion of IMPA’s portfolio and diversifying resources to the benefit of all members. Moving forward, IMPA is working toward a projected energy portfolio made up of 46% no-carbon resources by 2026. As environmental regulations continually change, and as older generation units near their end-of-life expectancy, the shift is a necessity for the Agency’s future success.

Forty years ago, the founders of IMPA provided the building blocks for a resilient foundation, and this foundation remains strong. IMPA as an Agency today has truly been formed by its history — the visionaries



that created the Agency, the decisions that shaped the Agency’s operations, and the evolution of IMPA’s service and power supply over time. As the Agency embarks on its next 40 years of existence, IMPA will continue to write its own story and history as the Agency adapts for future generations. •

## IMPA Adds 75 MW of Wind Power

This June, Alta Farms wind farm in DeWitt County, Illinois, announced it began operations to produce renewable wind power. IMPA previously signed a power purchase agreement with the wind farm’s developer, Enel North America, for 75 megawatts of power, which has

now been added to the Agency’s power supply portfolio.

IMPA continues to build upon its historic foundation with wise investments in the Agency’s power supply portfolio, ensuring that its members will always have their everchanging electric needs met.



# 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.

**What are some of the benefits of solar energy?**



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!



## New Town Manager

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Town Manager before retiring shortly after. However, McGinnis found that retirement wasn't as fulfilling as serving communities in Johnson County, bringing him to apply as the Town Manager of Edinburgh.

"I'm just an extrovert, and I love communicating with everyone and helping to achieve projects for the municipality," says McGinnis. "We have great supervisors over each department in Edinburgh, so they make the job enjoyable."

The many projects that McGinnis currently oversees include an ongoing \$6 million water treatment plant upgrade, major upcoming road upgrades to State Road 252, the new fire station building, and a planned substation south of town. A major subdivision is also in the process of being developed to bring approximately 900 housing units to Edinburgh. These continuous developments are sure to keep McGinnis busy, but he's



## Follow IMPA on Social Media!



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Indiana Municipal Power Agency

looking forward to supporting each project and assisting with resolutions when needed.

“The community here is great. It’s such a tightknit community that provides that small town atmosphere, and that’s something I really appreciate about Edinburgh,” said McGinnis.

In his free time, McGinnis likes to spend time with his family, including his wife, four children, and six grandchildren. As a handyman, his family also keeps him busy with several home improvement projects between them. •

## Congratulations to Kevin Rubush!

Kevin Rubush recently retired from Edinburgh’s Electric Department after working for the utility for 35 years. Many thanks to Kevin for his decades of hard work and dedication, and well wishes on your retirement.

## What’s the Word?

### Circuit Breaker

A circuit breaker is a safety device typically used in homes to interrupt the flow of electricity whenever the current level gets too high. These devices are vital in preventing house fires or other electrical hazards caused by wiring problems or equipment failures.

Typically, homes have a circuit breaker panel, which acts as the control system for the electricity in a house. Here, you can use switch controls to alter the distribution of power around your home.

While circuit breaker panels are intentionally built for easy access and use, always call a professional if you need breaker modifications, or if you are in doubt about anything. It’s always best to prioritize safety when it comes to electricity!

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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## MEMBERS

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Bremen  
Brooklyn  
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Centerville  
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Coatesville  
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Dublin  
Dunreith  
Edinburgh  
Etna Green  
Flora  
Frankfort  
Frankton  
Gas City  
Greendale  
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Huntingburg  
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Thorntown  
Tipton  
Troy  
Veedersburg  
Walkerton  
Washington  
Waynetown  
Williamsport  
Winamac

# Cooking Corner

## Darlington High School Pizza Burgers

Recipe submitted by Martha of New Ross, Indiana

- 1 lb hamburger
- 1/2 lb bologna
- 1 1/2 cups pizza sauce
- Italian seasoning to taste
- Salt and Pepper
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- 4-8 oz pizza cheese
- 1 dozen hamburger buns

Mix hamburger and bologna. Chop bologna in food processor. Brown until hamburger is no longer pink. Add salt, pepper, garlic, and italian seasoning. Stir in pizza sauce. Should not be too wet. Let cool slightly. Add cheese and spoon onto half of a bun. Bake 350 until hot. May add more cheese on top. Makes 2 dozen.

## Apple Dumplings

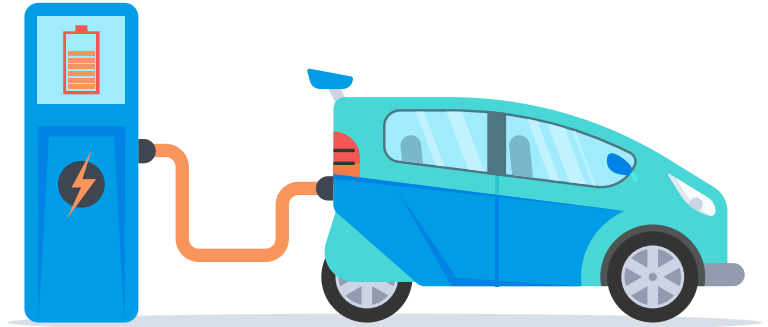
Recipe submitted by Jamie of Linton, Indiana

- 2 cans crescent rolls
- 2 large Granny Smith apples
- 1 1/2 sticks butter
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 cup Mountain Dew

Cut apples into 8 slices each and wrap each slice into a crescent roll. Mix butter, sugar and cinnamon; bring to a boil then spoon over rolls. Pour on Mountain Dew next. Some people will add the Mountain Dew in with the butter, sugar and cinnamon. Bring to a boil. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

# The Benefits of Electric Vehicles

In the last issue of the Municipal Power News, we asked readers to share some of the advantages of driving an electric car rather than a traditional gas powered vehicle. We received a number of great comments from our readers—check out what some of you said!



“One significant benefit of driving an electric vehicle (EV) over a gas-powered car is the cost savings associated with fuel and maintenance. Electric vehicles are more energy-efficient, allowing drivers to cover more miles per unit of energy compared to internal combustion engine vehicles. With electricity generally being cheaper than gasoline, EV owners can save significantly on fuel costs over time. Furthermore, electric vehicles have fewer moving parts and require less frequent maintenance. They don’t need oil changes, spark plug replacements, or timing belt adjustments, reducing ongoing maintenance expenses. This combination of lower fuel costs and reduced maintenance requirements makes electric vehicles a cost-effective choice for environmentally conscious drivers.” – Mario, Richmond

Spot on answer! The energy efficiency of EVs, as well as their low maintenance needs, make these vehicles remarkably safe and dependable. Like Mario, many of our other readers mentioned the environmental benefits of EVs:

“A benefit of driving an electric car is zero tailpipe emissions.” – Sue, Bremen

“Electric vehicles are better for the environment by having a lesser carbon footprint.” – Todd, Winamac

“Lower carbon footprint.” – Charlie, Bainbridge

This is also a great observation—No power source is completely benign environmentally. While the mining and production of the battery components causes emissions, EVs may have an edge when considering lifetime emissions of EVs versus conventional gas powered cars. As renewable energy generation becomes more popular, the electricity that fuels EVs is also becoming cleaner. This reduction in emissions improves the air quality of your community and supports renewable resource integration.

The popularity of electric vehicles steadily rises as consumers learn about the numerous benefits that they provide as compared to gas powered cars. While EVs may not be for everyone, their use is expected to grow in the coming decade. As a member of a public power utility, EVs also benefit your entire community as their fuel supply comes from your local utility. The energy purchased to charge an electric vehicle helps to support infrastructure upgrades, hometown jobs, and steady electric rates that are provided by public power utilities. Next time you’re in the market for a new vehicle, consider going electric!

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

IMPA Commissioner: Mike Jenner

## Avoid Common Utility Scams

According to the Federal Trade Commission, fraud complaints were received from more than 2.8 million people in 2021, showing a total loss of \$5.8 billion—\$2.3 billion of which were from impostor scams. Many of these scams are utility related, where scammers pretend to be representatives of utility companies and demand immediate payment to avoid service disconnects.

Learn How to Spot a Utility Scam with These Tips:

- Utility companies do not request payment, or other personal information, over the phone or through email.
- Utilities do not ask for gift cards, prepaid cards, or money transfers as forms of payment.
- Utilities will not contact you threatening to disconnect service or ask for immediate payment over the phone or email.
- Scammers use fake emails or phone numbers. If you have any questions about your account, contact the utility directly using the phone number or email listed on your bill.

Have you noticed a scam? Let your utility know. This can happen to you, your loved ones, and your neighbors. •

*Information from [www.esfi.org](http://www.esfi.org).*