# Municipal Power News



#### Scottsburg Electric Utility

Volume 28, Issue 2 | Fall 2023



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# Green Power Program Benefits Your Community

Renewable energy resources—such as the sun, wind, and water—are valuable sources of energy being harnessed around the globe to produce electricity in an environmentally friendly way. Interest in renewable energy has skyrocketed in recent decades, and Scottsburg's wholesale power provider, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), works diligently to include these fuel sources as part of its power supply portfolio. Now, for a small additional cost, utility customers have the opportunity to specify a portion of their power supply be made up of renewable energy resources by participating in the Agency's Green Power Program!

The Green Power Program enables customers of IMPA member communities to voluntarily pay an additional amount on their utility bills in support of renewable power. Enrolling in IMPA's Green Power Program ensures that a participating customer's electric use is accounted for by renewable resources in the Agency's power supply portfolio. IMPA's diverse power supply portfolio already incorporates renewables, as well as clean energy sources like nuclear, and participants of the Green Power Program encourage continued investment in these projects. Enrollees directly aid IMPA's goal to achieve a projected energy portfolio made up of 50% no-carbon resources by 2030.

This dedication to environmental -continued on page 4

# 40 Years of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency



he 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 municipallyowned 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



Some of the founders of IMPA

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 vears, 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

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 coalfired 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

his 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, 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!



# **Green Power Program**

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responsibility and resource diversity ensures that Scottsburg's electric utility will be able to provide low-cost, reliable, and sustainable energy for decades to come. As environmental regulations continually change, and as older generation units near their end-of-life expectancy, the shift toward renewable energy will be needed for Scottsburg and IMPA's future success. While no one can determine with certainty what the future holds, IMPA continues to build a diverse and reliable portfolio, and participants in the Green Power Program play an integral role in helping make that happen. The program truly provides a winwin opportunity for participants, the Scottsburg community, and the environment.

One utility customer who has taken part in the Green Power Program is Samtec—a global technology leader in the fields of signal integrity, miniaturization, rugged designs, optics, and high-performance cable. Going beyond just building and designing cutting edge and innovative products, Samtec is also committed to being a good corporate citizen. For over ten years, the company has pioneered a sustainability program that aims to mitigate its carbon footprint and recognize the social impact of its operations in each of



the business' 40 locations. In May of 2023, the company officially joined IMPA's Green Power Program, committing 100% of the electricity used by its Scottsburg manufacturing facility to be linked to the initiative.

"By reducing our emissions and focusing on the efficient use of utilities, we can have a positive influence in local communities like Scottsburg, making them better places to live for our associates and everyone in the region," said Mac Miller, Samtec Sustainability Specialist. "Our sustainability efforts are geared toward making our locations an attractive place to work and live, so collaboration with cities like Scottsburg becomes imperative. One of the most important regional impacts we believe we can have is through assisting in

the development of renewable infrastructure to create environmental responsibility locally."

Samtec's 71,000-square-foot manufacturing plant in Scottsburg began operation in February of 2016. The company has come to be a premier employer in Scott County, employing over 300 associates with a variety of skills and backgrounds. The cutting-edge products that Samtec produces are essential to the success of electronic equipment utilized in a variety of industries which includes aerospace, automotive, industrial, data communications, medical, and computer/semiconductor. Not only does the company strive to provide local economic growth and career opportunities in Scottsburg, but Samtec is also focused on improving the quality of life in each of its manufacturing locations. This initiative has led the company to work closely with the City of Scottsburg to create a mutually beneficial relationship between both entities.

With ecologically-minded organizations like Samtec, IMPA, and the City of Scottsburg collaborating for a bright future, the local community remains full of potential for a better tomorrow.

"We are excited to be one of the first organizations in Scottsburg to take part in the Green Power Program and look forward to seeing the co-benefits that this program can bring to the local community and other organizations who choose to take part," said Miller.

To learn more about Samtec and the company's commitment to sustainability, visit www.samtec.com! •

### 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. 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

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# **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
- 11/2 sticks butter

- 11/2 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.

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# The Benefits of Electric Vehicles

n 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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IMPA Commissioner: Mayor Terry Amick



# Green Power Program

The Green Power Program enables customers of Scottsburg Utilities to support the use of renewable energy resources in the production of electricity.

- When you participate in the Green Power Program, IMPA provides a known portion of your power usage from renewable energy sources such as wind, the sun, and water.
- Electricity under the Green Power Program is available at a cost of just \$.006 per kilowatt-hour more a month through your local utility provider. If you buy 100 kilowatt-hours per month, you will pay just 60 cents more per month on your utility bill. The minimum purchase amount is 100 kilowatt-hours per month.
- Pay your bill and rest easy knowing you are supporting green power efforts in Indiana!
- Additional information regarding the program is available at <a href="https://www.impa.com/greenpowerprogram">www.impa.com/greenpowerprogram</a> or by contacting Scottsburg Utilities.