



President's Message

Adapting to a "New Normal"

—by Raj G. Rao

As the state of Indiana begins to reopen public spaces and loosen travel restrictions, many of us wonder what recovery from COVID-19 will look like. Adjusting to this "new normal" after such an abnormal time will surely take adjustments in our workplaces, businesses, and homes. While the world tries to heal from the devastating effects of a global pandemic, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) understands that its role as a public power provider is vital to the recuperation of public health and the economy. No matter how uncertain our times may seem, IMPA remains dedicated to bringing each one of its 61 member communities uninterrupted electric service.

While most of the world stowed away at home, crucial IMPA staff continued working out in the field to supply our members with low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible power. These three qualities define IMPA's mission, and the staff members that directly play a part in bringing these qualities to fruition were true heroes through this global pandemic. This

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Commissioners and Members Honored with National Awards

Each year, the American Public Power Association (APPA), the United States' voice for non-profit, community-owned utilities, honors outstanding public power leaders and utilities with a variety of awards. Recipients of these prestigious awards are recognized at the national level, serving as excellent examples to all public power communities in the country. The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) is proud to recognize three IMPA commissioners and two member communities who were honored by the APPA this year.

Winning the Larry Hobart "Seven Hats" award this year was IMPA commissioner Brad Zellers from Winamac, Indiana. The "Seven Hats" award acknowledges exceptional utility managers in smaller communities whose variety of management responsibilities extends well beyond those of a manager in a larger system with larger staff. Zellers has served the town of Winamac for 25 years and, as the community's Town Manager, he oversees all the town's



Brad Zellers, winner of APPA's Larry Hobart "Seven Hats" Award

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IMPA Commissions More Solar Parks

Though much of the world has halted as a result of the public health emergency, construction of IMPA solar parks has made headway. With two solar generation facilities commissioned in the last two months, nearly 5 megawatts (MW) of solar capacity has been added to IMPA's power portfolio just this year. This addition included the establishment of Gas City's first solar park and an additional solar park in Crawfordsville. As a result of these parks' construction, IMPA now has over 77 MW of solar capacity, with another 28 MW estimated to be online by the end of 2020.

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National Awards

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operations, including the community's four utilities: electric, water, wastewater, and street.

IMPA member utility Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power (CEL&P) received the Sue Kelly Community Service Award in recognition of their continued commitment to the betterment of their community. For years, CEL&P has collaborated with local schools to educate children about electric safety, sponsored city-wide events, volunteered

time and materials for the beautification of Crawfordsville, and participated in charity events to fundraise for the community. CEL&P consistently strives to support Crawfordsville beyond power supply and serves as a wonderful example of what a service-oriented public power utility can accomplish for its community.

Jeff Lane, IMPA commissioner from Spiceland, Indiana, received the APPA Honor Roll Award, which recognizes individuals who have made significant local contributions to public power. Lane is a great advocate of public power as he continuously educates Spiceland's community about their municipally-owned utility and communicates openly with the town's residents and council. He is a true champion of public power.

IMPA commissioner Ram Reddy from Blanchester, Ohio was also honored with the APPA Honor Roll Award. Reddy worked to structure an agreement with IMPA to allow Blanchester to become a wholesale power customer of IMPA, and later the first IMPA member community outside of the state of Indiana. Through Reddy's dedication to his community and public power, he has played a major role in bringing Blanchester a low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible power supply for years to come.

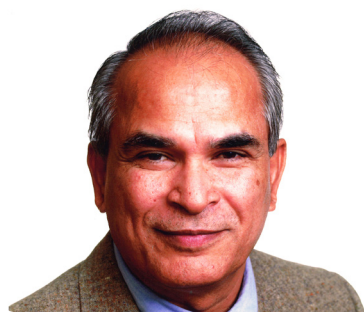
Finally, CEL&P and Peru Utilities were both awarded with a Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) designation and a Safety Award of Excellence. Both of these distinctions recognize utilities that excel in operational excellence. The RP3 designation commends public power utilities with preeminence in reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement. The Safety Award of Excellence recognizes overall safety by awarding utilities with low

recordable injuries and illness cases for all staff. The efforts made by CEL&P and Peru Utilities indicate that the utilities are dedicated to the well-being of their employees, customers, and community.

While winners of APPA's annual awards are generally honored at the organization's National Conference, the event was cancelled this year due to public health concerns regarding COVID-19. In its place, APPA hosted a virtual summit to safely celebrate public power and the organization's award recipients. IMPA appreciates the commitment to public power shown by these member utilities and commissioners. Congratulations! 🎉



Jeff Lane, winner of APPA's Honor Roll



Ram Reddy, winner of APPA's Honor Roll

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includes IMPA Service Corp's team of linemen, who maintained reliability by providing outage restoration and other maintenance services through the pandemic to multiple member communities. Additionally, utility staff in our public power communities worked to ensure that distribution services to their customers were uninterrupted through the public health emergency. Our Agency also appreciates the contracted services of Brandt Construction, who collaborated with us to continue our solar park projects during COVID-19. When several solar sites simultaneously approached their commissioning date in the middle of the pandemic, these contractors and IMPA staff involved in the solar park construction worked tirelessly to complete these projects. Their continued commitment makes IMPA a leader in renewable generation construction in the state of Indiana, and this allows us to keep electric rates stable and provide an environmentally-responsible power supply.

For the last few months, other IMPA staff members have worked remotely at their homes to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Now, as the state moves through its phased reopening plan, these staff members have gradually returned to work in our buildings at headquarters. Though many IMPA employees are returning to our offices, the health and safety of our staff and member communities remains an upmost priority. Knowing how important their service is to our member communities, our staff members continue to follow social distancing guidelines, wear masks in communal areas, and restrict themselves from unnecessary travel while working.

While IMPA remains committed to the health and safety of the public, our member communities and their utilities are doing the same. We at IMPA have remained in close communications with our public power communities through the pandemic to support them beyond power supply. With educational webinars, COVID-19 resources, government representation, marketing materials, and more, we have continued to fulfill the diverse needs of our communities and their utility staff. The well-being of our staff, member communities, and families will continue to remain the top priority as we move forward.

The most important thing that we can all keep in mind as we continue through this difficult journey is that we are all in this together. Our member communities know that uninterrupted power supply provides residents with vital resources, such as air conditioning, access to the internet, and the ability to call and FaceTime loved ones. Each of IMPA's 61 municipal utilities is making certain to do their part in sustaining their community. IMPA is proud to supply our essential services to these communities that are working relentlessly to adapt, recover, and connect through the COVID-19 pandemic. *W*



IMPA's line crews work diligently to ensure our member communities have access to reliable power.



IMPA staff worked through the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure solar parks, such as Gas City's, were still commissioned by the end of the spring.



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Solar Parks

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“With the commissioning of these two solar parks, IMPA builds on the success of our solar program, which was established in 2014,” said IMPA President and CEO Raj Rao. “As we incorporate more solar power into our diverse portfolio of energy resources, our power supply will become increasingly environmentally-responsible. With continued solar park construction, we are planning for a bright future in public power.”

By the end of 2021, IMPA plans to have over 150 MW of solar generation, further diversifying the Agency’s power resources, which leads to a low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible power supply. For more information about IMPA’s solar park program, visit www.impa.com/solar. *W*

Solar Parks Currently Under Construction

Solar Park	MW-AC	Construction Start Month	Estimated Commissioning
Tell City 2	3.2	Sep 2019	July 2020
Scottsburg	7.1	July 2019	July 2020
Crawfordsville 5	9.8	Nov 2019	Sep 2020
Richmond 4	7.05	Feb 2020	Nov 2020
Centerville	1.05	Feb 2020	Sep 2020
Columbia City	4.3	April 2020	Jan 2021