

IMPA Commissioners Receive APPA Award

This June, the American Public Power Association (APPA) announced two IMPA commissioners as winners of the annual Larry Hobart “Seven Hats” award. APPA is the national voice for not-for-profit electric utilities, and the Association awards outstanding public power leaders each year at its National Conference. The Seven Hats Award recognizes public power managers who lead with excellence in seven distinct categories: planning and design, administration, public relations, field supervision, accounting, human resources, and community involvement. IMPA is proud that both Jamie Lindstrom of Argos, IN and Faith Willoughby of Chalmers, IN were awarded with the honor in 2021.

As the Superintendent of the town of Argos, Lindstrom oversees all planning and design aspects for the community’s four

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IMPA Unveils New Logo

For nearly 40 years, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) has provided municipally-owned electric utilities with a wholesale power supply that is low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible. This May, IMPA unveiled a new logo that portrays those values while visually positioning the Agency for a bright future of serving all 61 member communities.

This evolution of the IMPA logo reflects the transformation of the Agency since its beginnings in 1983. IMPA’s prior logo spoke to the Agency’s historic roots of providing electricity to municipal electric communities throughout Indiana, first through power purchase contracts with other suppliers, then through a traditional reliance on coal-fired resources. However, in recent years, IMPA has embraced a transition toward renewable energy, most notably through the Agency’s solar program that has established over 30 solar parks throughout the state of

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IMPA Unveils New Logo

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Indiana. Additionally, IMPA's service offerings have expanded dramatically, and the Agency now serves one community outside of Indiana.

The story of IMPA, while rooted in the values and ideals instilled by its founders in 1983, is one of transformation. The new logo identity speaks to this story, providing a fresh perspective on the growing and evolving Agency, while still staying true to IMPA's core purpose.

"The IMPA logo has been synonymous with public power in Indiana for over 35 years," commented Raj Rao, IMPA President and CEO. "Just as the Agency has grown and adapted



Columbia City Solar Park Ribbon Cutting

On June 3, Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) officials gathered with Columbia City personnel and elected officials for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially welcome the community's solar park. This 4.3 megawatt (MW) solar park is Columbia City's first renewable generation facility and provides enough solar capacity to power nearly 800 homes. Columbia City now joins a growing list of IMPA member communities to have IMPA constructed solar sites in their service territory.

"Diversity of IMPA's generation portfolio is what enables us to provide the low-cost,

throughout the years, it is time that our logo better reflect the state of our Agency and the ideals we hold for today and the future."

The modified lightning bolt depicted in IMPA's new logo—a symbol that has defined IMPA's identity for decades—is a nod to the Agency's historic logo while giving it a more progressive feel indicative of the Agency's future. The icon also speaks to the synergy, cooperation, and coming together of municipal electric communities in the formation of the Agency in 1983. The colors shown in the icon—yellow, orange, green, and blue—speak to the diversity of the Agency's energy portfolio, including solar, wind, nuclear, natural gas, and coal resources. The colors and shape of the bolt also symbolize the balance that must be maintained in a diverse power portfolio to best meet the needs of electric utilities, while also representing the many utilities that came together in the formation of the Agency.

As a complement to IMPA's logo refresh, *The Wire*, the bimonthly newsletter covering IMPA and electric utility industry news, has also undergone its own transformation—a complete redesign. This newsletter's new composition mirrors the evolution of IMPA's logo, pulling many of the colors from the refreshed icon to create a cohesive look. IMPA hopes that readers enjoy the newsletter's change to a cleaner, more navigable design while they learn about the latest in IMPA and utility industry news.

Ongoing transformation remains on the horizon—not just for IMPA, but for the entire electric utility industry. As we look to the future, IMPA plans to continue growing and evolving for the better. However, one thing that will not change is IMPA's determination to provide member communities with the same low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible power supply that they have come to expect and deserve. ●

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separate utilities: electric, water, wastewater, and street. He is described by coworkers as excellent with numbers, and his knack for budgeting and planning has helped to keep utility rates in town at a stable level for years. Not only does Lindstrom work to manage budgets and keep records up to date, but he is more than willing to get out in the field and get his hands dirty alongside utility personnel. Lindstrom is respected by all Argos town employees due to his continuous support of their efforts, and his positive attitude and approachableness are noticed by everyone in the community.

Willoughby serves her community as Chalmers' Town Manager, overseeing all of the town's operations on a day-to-day basis. She effectively plans, directs, and coordinates several administrative functions of the town of Chalmers, and she uses her excellent management skills to organize her time, as well as her employees and their time. She can often be found out in the field working alongside utility employees, whether

it be supervising a project or helping them read meters at the end of the month. Under Willoughby's leadership, Chalmers has been awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in grant money and has seen significant improvements to the town's wastewater, water, and electric utilities. She works tirelessly to improve the quality of life in Chalmers, whether it be through utilities, park upgrades, or accommodating housing developments. Additionally, Willoughby serves on the Executive Board of IMPA.

"I am thrilled to recognize both Jamie and Faith for their hard work and dedication to both their communities and IMPA," said Raj Rao, President and CEO of IMPA. "Our Agency is lucky to have such strong allies, and I am glad to see both of these commissioners honored by the APPA as among the 'best-of-the-best.'" ●



Faith Willoughby (left) and Jamie Lindstrom (right).

Upcoming Workshops

IMPA is glad to open its doors to visitors once again in a series of training programs geared toward municipal utilities. The workshops are free to all IMPA members and member employees, and include all course materials, a certificate of completion, and a complimentary lunch. IMPA encourages all to register and attend the monthly workshops. For details about upcoming workshops and registration, visit IMPA's website at:

www.impa.com/impaworkshops.

Substation Maintenance

July 14 | 9:30am EST

Buddy to Boss

August 11 | 9:30am EST

Vegetation Management

September 8 | 9:30am EST



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reliable, and environmentally-responsible power supply that we have provided for nearly four decades,” said Raj Rao, President and CEO of IMPA. “Columbia City’s collaboration with us in establishing another solar park allows us to provide our excellent service to all 61 IMPA member communities. We are proud to expand our diverse power portfolio through the addition of more solar energy.”

Since the establishment of IMPA’s solar program in 2014, IMPA has constructed 35 solar parks in more than 20 communities across the state of Indiana. With the help of cities like Columbia City, IMPA now has 130 MW of constructed solar capacity in its power supply portfolio.

The Columbia City Solar Park ribbon cutting also marked the first IMPA event of its kind since the pandemic. The celebration was an encouraging symbol of public power’s perseverance in the face of the challenges that all utilities have faced through the COVID-19 public health emergency.

IMPA continues to make headway as a leader of solar development in the Midwest. As of June, the Agency has another 35 MW of solar capacity under construction in the member communities of Richmond and Anderson. Construction on five additional solar parks is anticipated to begin this year, with plans for solar sites in Bremen, Linton, Walkerton, Gas City, and Peru to be commissioned by next year. IMPA aims to surpass 200 MW of solar capacity by 2023 and hopes to eventually establish at least one solar park in each of the Agency’s member communities. To learn more about IMPA’s solar program, visit www.impa.com/solar. ●