Argos Utilities

IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

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Raj Rao, President and CEO of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), spoke at the IMPA Argos Solar Park ribbon cutting ceremony on November 10, 2015. This solar park can generate up to 720 kilowatts of electricity.

IMPA Argos Solar Park Data Available Online

In 2015, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) built a 720 kilowatt solar facility in Argos, located on seven acres of land just west of town. This solar park has been generating electricity for almost one year, produced over 755,000 kilowatt-hours of energy and reduced carbon emissions by over 500 tons. In addition to Argos, IMPA also owns and operates solar parks throughout Indiana in Bainbridge, Crawfordsville, Frankton, Rensselaer, Pendleton, Peru, Richmond and Tell City. The Agency is currently in the midst of constructing new solar parks in the communities of Anderson, Huntingburg, Washington and Waynetown, all of which will begin generating electricity this year.

IMPA provides real-time data on each of its solar parks on its website, allowing website visitors to see how much power the solar parks are generating at any given time. To find out how much power the IMPA Argos solar park is generating, visit www.impa.com, click on "Spotlight IMPA Solar Parks" on the homepage, and choose IMPA Argos.

Anatomy of an Electric Utility Pole

Utility poles are a common sight throughout the United States, as they are located adjacent to many roadways that are visible while driving. While you see these poles every day, have you ever thought about the function of the poles and the lines and attachments that hang onto them?

Utility poles play an important role in electrical distribution, which is a fancy term for how electricity travels to your home or business. All of the lines and attachments that sit on the utility pole play an essential role in this process. Read on to learn more about the different parts that make up your everyday electric power pole.

1. Insulator: The insulator prevents wires from coming into contact with each other on the utility pole, which could cause fires, outages and other dangerous conditions.

2. Guy wire: The guy wire is a tensioned wire that helps to stabilize the utility pole to the ground.

3. Transformer: An electrical device, typically in a metallic enclosure, that converts high voltage electricity to a lower voltage for use in homes and businesses.

4. Fuse cutout: A combination of a fuse and a switch, the fuse cutout is used to protect power lines and other equipment from surges or overloads by disconnecting the power line from a transformer.

5. Crossarm: This horizontal piece of the utility pole is typically made of high-quality wood and holds power lines and other equipment, such as transformers, onto the pole.

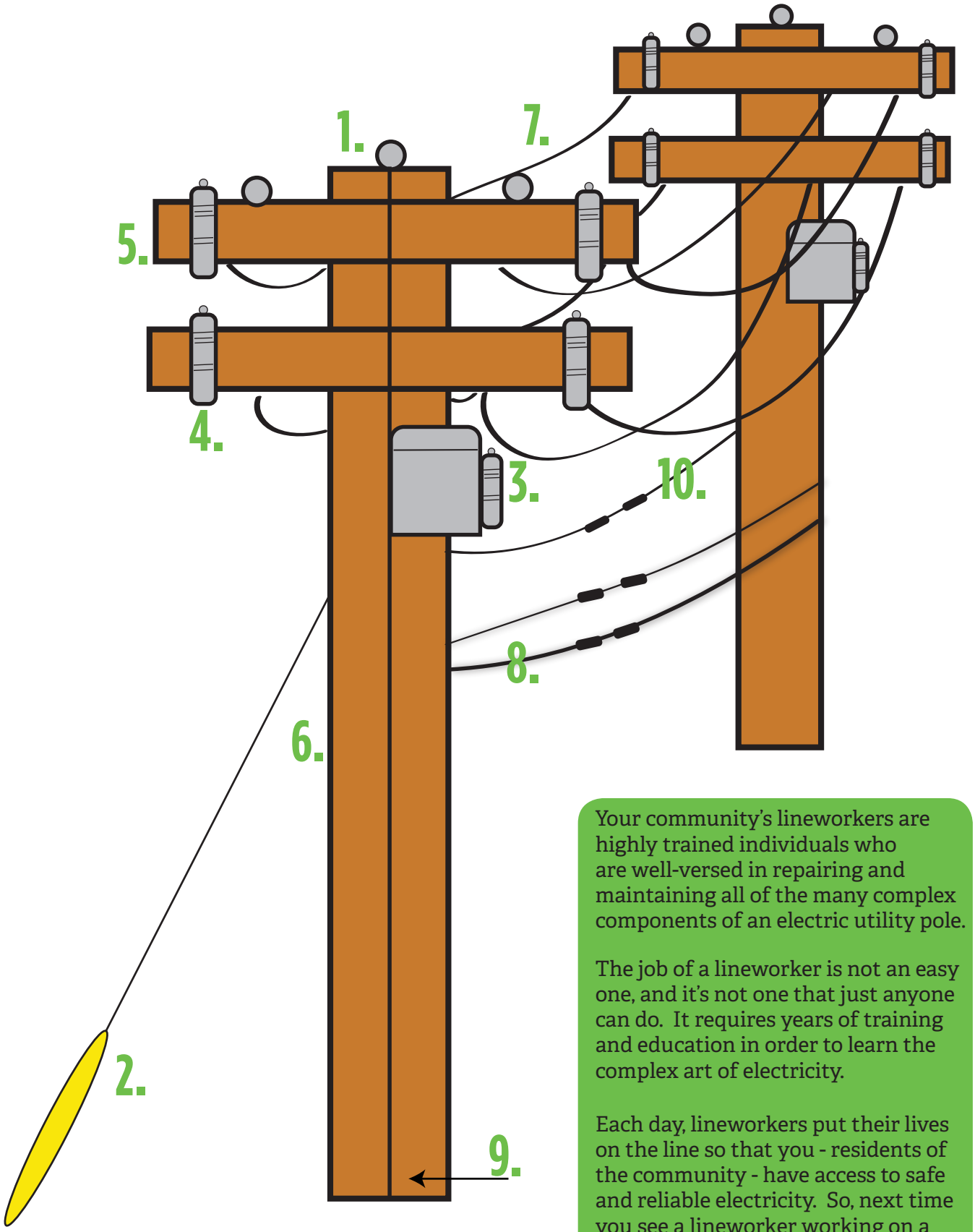
6. Utility pole: The utility pole is typically made of wood or steel, and can range in height from 30 feet to more than 100 feet. The pole serves as the backbone for the electric line and holds all of the components and equipment.

7. Primary wire: These wires are on the very top of the utility pole, and usually carry high voltage electricity from a substation.

8. Lowest wires: Utility poles don't just hold electric wires; other wires, such as telephone or cable wires, are also attached to these poles. Typically, these wires are found closest to the ground and are the lowest wire on the utility pole.

9. Ground wire: This wire runs the entire length of the utility pole, directing any electricity on the pole safely into the ground.

10. Secondary wire: Once the high voltage electricity has been converted to a lower voltage, the secondary wire carries that electricity to homes and businesses.



Your community's lineworkers are highly trained individuals who are well-versed in repairing and maintaining all of the many complex components of an electric utility pole.

The job of a lineworker is not an easy one, and it's not one that just anyone can do. It requires years of training and education in order to learn the complex art of electricity.

Each day, lineworkers put their lives on the line so that you - residents of the community - have access to safe and reliable electricity. So, next time you see a lineworker working on a utility pole, stop and thank them for their service to the community.

Park Board to Complete Several Projects

The Parks and Recreation Board for the Town of Argos is taking an active role in planning for several updates and projects that will take place both in Argos Community Park as well as Argos Memorial Park. The seven member board adopted a new five year master plan at the beginning of 2016, which aims to grow and develop park and recreational opportunities throughout the Town of Argos. While there are many priorities and projects that have been outlined in this plan, the Board is focusing on a handful that will be completed within 2016.

One such project is the construction of a sandpit volleyball court and two horseshoe sand pits. The sandpit volleyball court as well as one horseshoe pit will be located near the basketball courts at Argos Community Park. The other horseshoe pit will be constructed in Memorial Park. The Park Board hopes to have both the volleyball courts and the horseshoe pits completely constructed by the end of the summer.

In addition to the volleyball courts and horseshoe pits, the Park Board is also working to extend the walking trail in Argos Community Park. The current walking trail stops where it intersects with State Road 10, just outside of the Argos Community Park. The Board plans to add an additional 800 feet, aimed at extending the trail onto State Road 10 and stretching all the way to the BP and McDonald's. This proposed eight-foot wide paved asphalt trail will provide a higher level of safety for bikers, walkers, and runners who use the path. The Board also plans to install signs on the newly extended section of the walking trail, informing individuals that Argos Community Park is only 800 feet away.

"The walking trail in the park has proved to be a very popular feature," said Jim Burroughs, Park Supervisor and Utilities Superintendent for the Town of Argos. "Extending the trail will not only help to connect the town with amenities such as the gas station, McDonald's, and Subway, but it will also promote our parks and the high quality of life in Argos."

In addition to the new updates to the parks, the Argos Splash Pad is also open for its second season. The splash pad, located inside of Argos Community Park, is free to the public and contains three above-ground water units as well as 24 in-ground nozzles. For more information on the Argos Park Board or park features, visit www.townofargos.com.

Plans are in place to add an additional 800 feet to the already exisiting walking trail located in the Argos Community Park.

Fiber Optic Upgrades in the Works

With an increased reliability on technology and access to instantaneous information, high-speed fiber optic Internet access is quickly becoming less of a luxury and more of a necessity for towns and cities throughout the United States. Dealing with the rise in demand for faster Internet service has caused many communities to evaluate their communication infrastructure and make updates to accommodate this surge in interest. Understanding the importance of having access to high-speed Internet for economic development purposes, the Town of Argos is working with Rochester Telephone Company to bring broadband fiber optic upgrades to the community.

This project is broken down into three phases, and phases one and two have already been completed and installed. The first phase of the fiber optic project consisted of installing the cable within the 75 acres of land that is devoted to industrial development. The second phase included the installation of fiber optic line to outlying industries across U.S. 31, as well as to the medical clinic. Phase three will complete the project, and will consist of installing fiber optic lines to residents and businesses within the town's limits. Town officials expect that the final phase will be installed and completed by late summer or early fall.

This project was prompted by town officials after having issues with the current telephone and Internet services. "Our previous phone and Internet service was really not adequate, as calls would frequently disconnect," stated Jim Burroughs, Utilities Superintendent for the Town of Argos. "By installing fiber, residents, businesses and industries within Argos will have access to fast and reliable Internet services." Once installed, all residents and businesses will have the option to sign up for fiber optic Internet service.

Tidbits & Trivia

Question: Which type of wire on a utility pole carries the high voltage electricity from a substation?

a) Secondary wire
b) Primary wire
c) Ground wire
d) None of the above

Send your answer to the question to IMPA, and we will randomly select winners from all of the correct entries to receive an energy efficiency prize pack. Please send your name, e-mail address and address with your answer to:

newsletter@impa.com

OR

MPN Energy Efficiency Quiz
11610 North College Avenue
Carmel, IN 46032

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 member utilities purchase their power from IMPA and deliver that power to the residents and companies within the community.

Substation

noun.

A facility used for switching and/or changing or regulating the voltage of electric energy. A substation may tie generating stations to transmission systems or transmission systems to distribution systems.

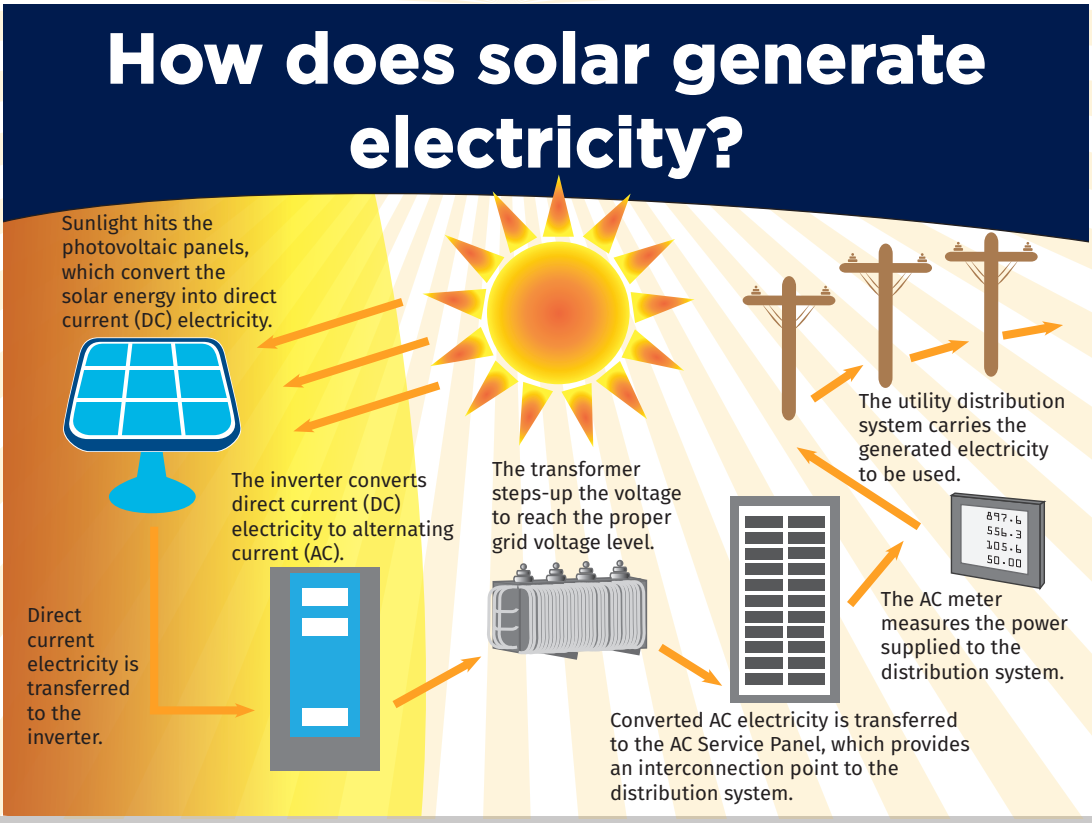
IMPA Continues Building Solar Parks in Local Communities

Throughout the last two years, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) has constructed nine solar parks in large and small IMPA communities throughout Indiana. This year, the Agency is in the midst of constructing four additional solar parks in the communities of Anderson, Huntingburg, Waynetown and Washington. These solar parks are all aimed at adding more renewable and economical energy resources to IMPA's power portfolio.

When energy is created by the solar parks, it is then placed onto the local distribution system in whichever town or city the solar park is located in. As the solar power is produced, it becomes a part of all of the electric generation that is supplying the system, which is typically a mixture of power produced via coal, natural gas, solar, wind and nuclear.

The process of generating electricity from the sun may seem to be a complex one, but in reality, is really quite simple. When sunlight hits the solar panels, the panels convert that energy into direct current electricity. That electricity is transferred to an inverter, located within the solar park. The inverter then takes the direct current electricity and converts it into alternating current (AC) electricity. Once converted to AC, the transformer steps-up the voltage to the proper level, and is then transferred to the interconnection point on the distribution system. The AC meter measures the energy from the solar park prior to its connection to the distribution system and ultimately the customer.

IMPA plans to add approximately 10 megawatts of solar capacity into its overall power portfolio each year, meaning more and more IMPA member communities will have solar parks within the coming years. For more information on IMPA's solar parks, visit www.impa.com.



Cooking Corner

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

Chicken and Dumpling Casserole

Recipe submitted by Vicky Hicks-Spear of Tell City, Indiana.

-1 pound chicken breasts
-2 cups chicken broth
-1/4 cup butter
-2 cups Bisquick
-2 cups whole milk
-1 can cream of chicken soup
- 3 tsp. chicken bouillon
-1/2 tsp. sage
-1 tsp. black pepper
-1/2 stick butter

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a 9x13 baking pan, melt 1/2 stick butter. Shred chicken and spread over butter. Sprinkle black pepper and sage over the chicken. Do not stir. In a small bowl, mix milk and Bisquick. Slowly pour over chicken. In another medium bowl, whisk together 2 cups of chicken broth, chicken bouillon and soup. Once blended, slowly pour over the Bisquick layer. Bake casserole for 30 to 40 minutes, or until golden brown.

Strawberry Delight

Recipe submitted by Burdett Parsons of Washington, Indiana.

-1 pre-made angel food cake
-8 oz. cream cheese
-16 oz. strawberry glaze
-16 oz. tub whipped cream
-1 1/3 cup sugar
-1 qt. fresh strawberries

Tear angel food cake into pieces and mix with 1/3 of the tub of whipped cream. Put whipped cream mixture into the bottom of a serving dish. Mix the rest of the whipped cream with the cream cheese and the sugar and place on top of the cake. Slice strawberries into quarters and mix with the strawberry glaze. Then, spread the strawberry mixture over the top of the cake.

The **MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS** is a periodic publication of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the 60 communities that it serves with wholesale power.

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Community Improves Raised Garden Beds

Just behind Argos' water tower sit several raised garden beds and barrels, which serve as Argos' community garden. While the community garden has been in existence for several years, it had fallen into disrepair over the past few years and was not being used to its fullest potential.

The Town of Argos and Argos Municipal Utilities repaired the raised garden beds this past spring, and now the community has a clean and safe space to plant a variety of fruits, vegetables and herbs. The community garden is open to the public, and anyone is welcome to use any free space. For more information about the community garden efforts, call the Town Hall at 892-5717.