

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Crawfordsville Electric  
Light & Power



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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Line Superintendent Robert Stephens and General Manager Phil Goode, along with other Indiana line utility personnel, were honored by Governor Mike Pence.

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## Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power Lineworkers Represent Public Power at State House Event

**O**n Monday, February 29, 2016, electric utility lineworkers from across the State of Indiana were recognized and honored by the Indiana State Legislature for their dedication to keeping the lights on for Indiana's over six million residents. Four Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) Member communities, including Crawfordsville, represented municipal electric utilities at the State House event.

The Legislature passed a resolution honoring these public servants. In part, the resolution recognizes Indiana's lineworkers for their dedication to constructing and maintaining the state's

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# The Value of Electricity

If a group of people were asked to think of a few items that they cannot live without, a variety of answers may come up: food, water and basic shelter are usually some of the first objects that people may think of. Others may say their smart phones or their tablets. Still others might say their microwaves, televisions or vehicles. While these items run the gamut in terms of necessities and luxuries, they all have one component in common: the utilization of electricity. Without electricity, there would be no refrigerators to store food, or heaters and air conditioners to regulate the temperatures inside homes. Without electricity, there would be no way to power or charge electronics and other appliances. An extended power outage would also make it difficult to fill a car with gasoline and provide clean, filtered water. Virtually all of the necessities and luxuries in life are powered by electricity.

## Cost Calculation of Electricity

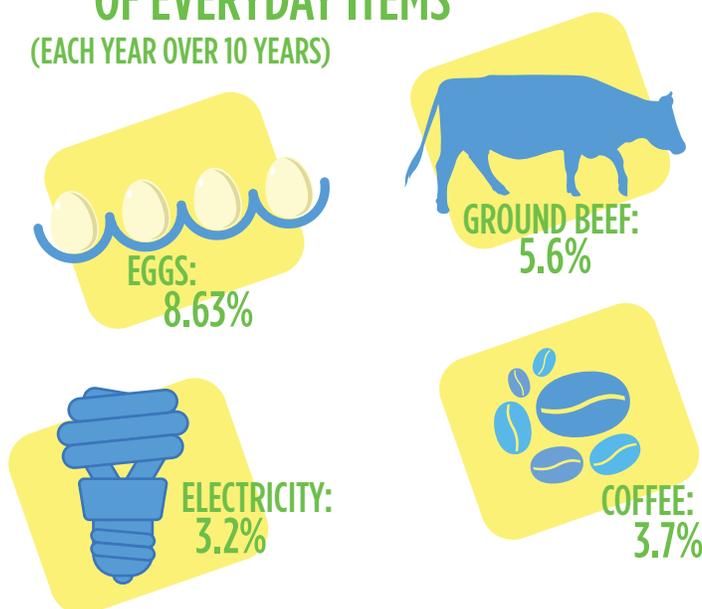
Since electricity plays such a vital role in nearly all aspects of life, the cost of electricity must be high to keep up with its demand, right? Actually, no. The cost of electricity is one of the greatest values in today's world. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, a government agency that collects, analyzes, and disseminates information pertaining to energy, the average monthly residential electric bill in Indiana is \$115.56. When that total is divided by the 31 days that make up an average month, the average cost of

electricity per day in Indiana is only \$3.73. That means that you are able to do laundry, prepare meals, watch television, charge smart phones, tablets and laptops, and complete a variety of other tasks at any time of the day or night, all for less than \$5 a day. In today's world, it's difficult to find anything of worth for under \$5, making the value of electricity even more surprising.

Not only is electricity a great value, but its average annual price increase is also low when compared to other daily staples. According to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the cost of electricity has increased an average of 3.2% each year, over the last ten years. In comparison, the cost of coffee has increased 3.7%, ground beef has increased 5.6% and eggs have increased by 8.63%.

## AVERAGE PERCENT PRICE INCREASE OF EVERYDAY ITEMS

(EACH YEAR OVER 10 YEARS)



SOURCE: U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Average  
Daily Cost of  
Electricity in  
Indiana

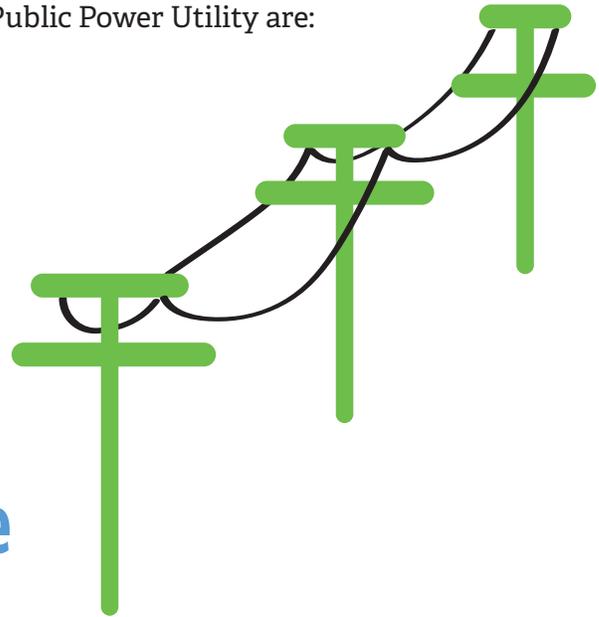


Electricity's average annual price increase is even more impressive when the amount of new technology and the energy it takes to power those devices is taken into consideration. While the advent and invention of new technology has been rapid over the past decade, the cost of electricity has not jumped significantly. Additionally, electricity is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, allowing light switches to be turned on at any hour, and heaters and air conditioners to run through the night. The value of having access to electricity at any time of the day or night for only a few dollars a day makes it one of the most economically advantageous products available.

## The Value of an IMPA Community

Electricity is an excellent value all around, but because your community owns its own Municipal Electric Utility, electric rates in your community are even lower than in other towns and cities in Indiana. A Municipal Electric Utility, also sometimes called a Public Power Utility, means that a utility is owned and operated by the town or city in which it is located. Your hometown electric utility purchases low-cost and reliable electricity from the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), and then uses its own equipment and infrastructure to deliver power to residents and businesses in the community. Some of the greatest benefits of a Public Power Utility are:

1. Low-cost power
2. Reliability
3. Local, hometown service



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# CEL&P Celebrates 125 Years

In October 2015, Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power (CEL&P) celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, marking an important milestone for the utility. In 1890, Crawfordsville became the first city in Indiana to own its own electric company, revolutionizing the electric industry in Indiana at the time by its ability to provide power to residents and businesses within the community. Not only was Crawfordsville the first city to own its own electric utility, but it was also the first city to have its own power plant, and the second city in the state to have streetlights. At the time, electricity was a luxury, and because Crawfordsville could provide this amenity, it served as a major economic development draw to the community. Since that time, CEL&P and Crawfordsville have seen many major changes within the landscape of the city, but the electric utility has remained a consistent presence in the community.

To celebrate its 125 years of existence, CEL&P held an open house at its headquarters on Friday, October 9, 2015. A ribbon cutting launched the event, with participation from Mayor Todd Barton as well as representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, CEL&P and the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, Crawfordsville's wholesale power provider. Over 100 individuals attended to celebrate the anniversary and learn more about the history of the utility. Each department within CEL&P prepared a display showing the equipment and materials used on a daily basis that assist in providing power to the city. In addition, a slide show of pictures from the last 125 years also played throughout the event, showcasing the historical significance of the utility. Each attendee also received a Beacon Light Bulb as well as other gifts from CEL&P and IMPA.



The ribbon cutting was attended by Mayor Todd Barton, Raj Rao, President and CEO of IMPA, and representatives from the Crawfordsville Chamber of Commerce and CEL&P.



Various pieces of electric equipment were on display during the Open House, allowing attendees to learn more about their utility.

## Lineworkers

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electrical infrastructure, ability to persevere in challenging situations, and dedication to their craft.

Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power Line Superintendent Robert Stephens, along with Phil Goode, the utility's general manager, visited the Indiana State House, and were honored by Governor Pence, the Indiana House of Representatives and the Indiana Senate. "Indiana's electric lineworkers are truly unsung hometown heroes," said Raj Rao, IMPA's President and CEO. "Many people do not realize the hazards they face on a daily basis. This day was just a small token of thanks to the hardworking lineworkers across Indiana – and the country – for everything they do to protect our safety and keep our electricity on."

# Longtime CEL&P Employee Retires After 45 Years

After 45 years of employment at Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power, Kay Callis retired from the utility on February 1, 2016. Beginning her career on December 7, 1970 as a Front Office Clerk, Kay became an integral staff member at the utility, accumulating an arsenal of skills and knowledge that cannot be replaced.

“Kay has been a loyal and dedicated employee and she will be missed,” said Phil Goode, Manager of CEL&P. “You do not replace employees like Kay. All you can try to do is adapt. We appreciate her 45 years of service and we wish her well in her retirement.”

Congratulations, Kay! ●



Kay Callis recently retired from CEL&P after working there for 45 years.

## Tidbits & Trivia

**Question:** Which of the following is a benefit of being an IMPA community?

- a) Local, hometown service
- b) Low-cost service
- c) Reliability
- d) All 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.

## Joint Action Agency

*noun.*

A not-for-profit organization of municipal utilities that band together to jointly own and operate generation and transmission facilities to gain economies of scale.

Example: *IMPA is a Joint Action Agency.*

# The Value of Electricity

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Municipally owned utilities are often able to provide lower-cost power to their customers than investor-owned utilities because they do not exist to make a profit for shareholders. All money earned by a municipally owned utility is used to cover costs and is invested to improve the electric system for everyone. For example, the average monthly bill for a community that is a Member of IMPA is \$111.62, while the monthly bill for a customer from an investor-owned utility is \$119.42, showing that those who live and work in an IMPA community receive an even greater value in terms of electricity.

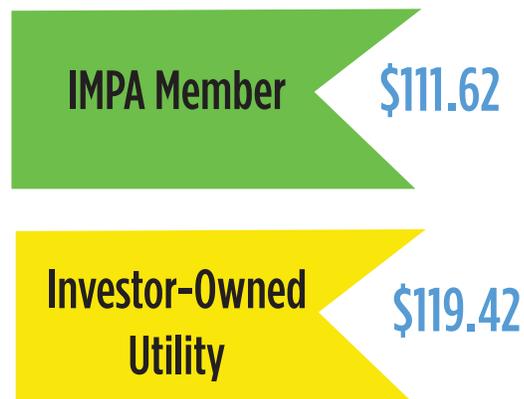
Additionally, a municipally owned utility often provides more reliable power because it is owned by the community that it serves. Whenever there is a problem or a power outage, it is addressed immediately by the employees at the utility. Those employees have a sense of pride and a sense of ownership in the utility because they, too, live in the community that they serve.

Finally, a municipally owned utility prides itself on local, hometown service. Public power employees are your friends and neighbors, and they have the same pride in your community that you do. That pride shows in their work on the utility distribution system – every pole, meter and wire is maintained to the highest standards by someone in the community. If there is a problem with your service and you contact the utility office, you talk with an actual person that works in a local office just a few miles down the road.

## The Great Value of Electricity

Electricity is a necessity that is available and ready to be used at any time. For under \$5 a day (and even less if living in a Public Power community!), you have the capability to fully power your homes and businesses. So, next time you flip on a light switch, run a load of laundry, or make a cup of coffee, remember that electricity is not only a necessity in daily life, but that it also offers one of the greatest values of any product or service in today's world.●

## Cost of Average Monthly Retail Electric Bill



## New Look for the Municipal Power News

Readers of the Municipal Power News may notice something different about the publication: it's now in full color! This change is in response to a growing need for visual imagery, making the newsletter more visually pleasing for its readers.

The Municipal Power News is a periodic publication by the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, your community's wholesale power provider. This newsletter aims to inform readers about local community news as well as relevant and helpful information about power and the electric industry. IMPA welcomes comments, questions and suggestions about the newsletter's new look – please send all comments to [newsletter@impa.com](mailto:newsletter@impa.com) or 11610 N. College Ave.; Carmel, IN 46032.

The newsletters are also available online! To receive your newsletter electronically, visit [www.impa.com](http://www.impa.com), click on News & Publications, and then Municipal Power News. You can then enter your name, e-mail address and community.●

# 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](mailto:newsletter@impa.com)

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

**Editor:** Niki Dick  
Manager of Marketing Communications  
[niki@impa.com](mailto:niki@impa.com)

**Correspondent:**  
Meredith Slavens  
Communications Specialist  
[meredith@impa.com](mailto:meredith@impa.com)

Send submissions and comments to:  
11610 N. College Ave.  
Carmel, IN 46032 or  
[newsletter@impa.com](mailto:newsletter@impa.com).



Advance	Columbia City	Greendale	Middletown	South Whitley
Anderson	Covington	Greenfield	Montezuma	Spiceland
Argos	Crawfordsville	Huntingburg	New Ross	Straughn
Bainbridge	Darlington	Jamestown	Paoli	Tell City
Bargersville	Dublin	Jasper	Pendleton	Thorntown
Blanchester, OH	Dunreith	Kingsford Heights	Peru	Tipton
Bremen	Edinburgh	Knightstown	Pittsboro	Veedersburg
Brooklyn	Etna Green	Ladoga	Rensselaer	Walkerton
Brookston	Flora	Lawrenceburg	Richmond	Washington
Centerville	Frankfort	Lebanon	Rising Sun	Waynetown
Chalmers	Frankton	Lewisville	Rockville	Williamsport
Coatesville	Gas City	Linton	Scottsburg	Wnamac

## Pecan Pie

Recipe submitted by Gail Norton of Washington, Indiana.

- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup dark Karo syrup
- 2 tbsp. vanilla
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 9-inch pie shell
- 2 tbsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 stick (1/4 cup) butter- melted
- 1 1/2 pecan halves

Stir eggs, Karo syrup, brown sugar, butter, vanilla and salt until blended. Add pecans to the mixture and coat well. Pour mixture over a 9-inch pie shell. Bake in center of oven 15 minutes at 425 degrees. Turn oven down to 350 degrees and bake another 40 minutes or until center is done.

## Smoked Sausage Soup

Recipe submitted by Jean Marion of Rensselaer, Indiana.

- 1/2 pound smoked peeled sausage
- 2 cups frozen corn
- 1 rib of celery
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- cheese
- salt and pepper to taste
- 6 medium potatoes, and diced
- 1 can chicken broth
- 1/4 cup sliced carrots
- 1/2 tsp. onion powder
- 2/3 cup shredded

Dice and brown the 1/2 pound of smoked sausage until done. Set the sausage aside and add the remaining ingredients into a large stockpot. Bring to a boil and then reduce to a simmer. Add the sausage, and simmer for 15 minutes.



The Municipal Power News is published by the Indiana  
Municipal Power Agency and the Crawfordsville Electric  
Light & Power.

IMPA Commissioner: Phil Goode

## 24/7 Hotline Available for Customers

**B**ecause emergencies happen, Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power (CEL&P) prides itself on always having an employee at the utility office to answer the telephone and provide solutions to customer questions. This service, which has been in existence for about two years, ensures that electric customers can always get a hold of an actual person, no matter the date or time.

In addition to reporting an outage, customers can also call the Communication Center to pay their electric bill or ask any questions regarding charges on the bill. "This Communication Center has been very beneficial to both CEL&P and the Crawfordsville community," said Phil Goode, CEL&P General Manager. "This is just another way to reach our customers and make sure that their questions are answered."●

**Communication Center Hotline:  
765-362-1900**

