

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Frankton Municipal  
Light and Water



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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ISC, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency's engineering and operations subsidiary, assisted Frankton when large wind gusts caused power outages throughout town.

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## Strong Partnership Between Frankton and IMPA Continues

Since 1982, the Town of Frankton has been a member of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), the community's wholesale power provider. As Frankton's wholesale power provider, IMPA meets Frankton's electric needs through a combination of power generated by plants in which the Agency has ownership interests, and also through long-term power contracts and purchases on the market. In addition to selling power to Frankton, IMPA also assists the community in a variety of other ways.

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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

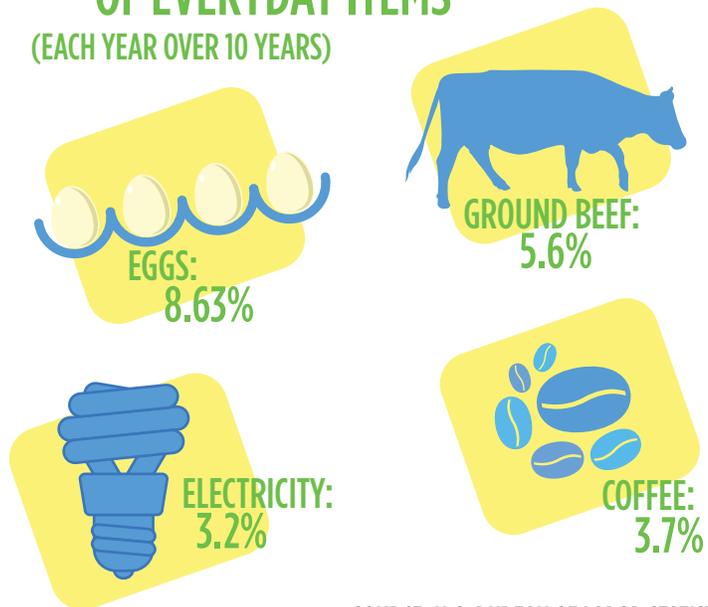
So, since electricity plays such a vital role in nearly all aspects of life, the cost of electricity must be high to keep up with its demand, right? Actually, no. The cost of electricity is one of the greatest values in today's world. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, a government 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

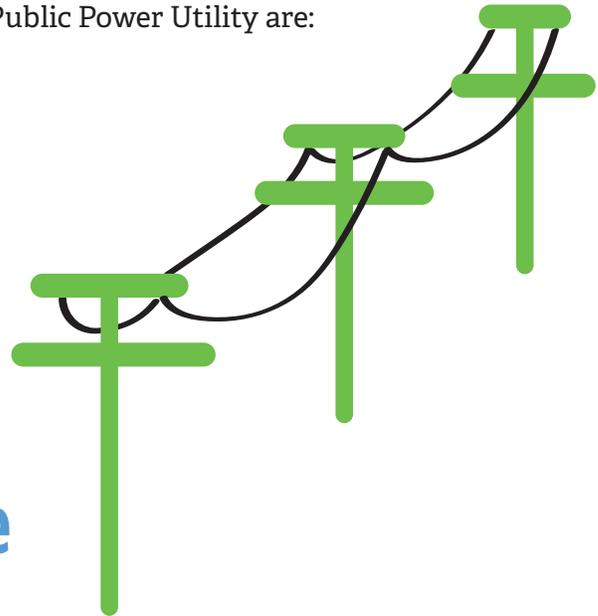


Electricity's average annual price increase is even more impressive when the amount of new technology and the energy it takes to power those devices is taken into consideration. While the advent and invention of new technology has been rapid over the past decade, the cost of electricity has not jumped 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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# Community Spotlight on C & J Firearms

In business for eight years, C & J Firearms is an independently owned family business that specializes in buying, selling and trading firearms in Frankton. According to owner Chi Baldwin, C & J Firearms has a “customer-first attitude that focuses on satisfaction after the sale”. While the business is currently located at 121 N. Washington Street in downtown Frankton, it was originally stationed in Baldwin’s home, but after experiencing growth, he decided to expand to its current location where it has been for several years.

In addition to buying, selling, and trading firearms, the business also offers general gunsmith work and sells firearm accessories, ammunition, reloading supplies, police supplies and much more. C & J Firearms also offers appraisals on all firearms and can legally transfer a firearm into an individual’s name as well.

Not only does C & J Firearms sell a variety of firearms and firearm accessories, but the business is also one of only eight certified Duracoat facilities throughout the State of Indiana. Duracoat is a firearm finishing spray that allows for it to be customized to a specific look with multiple colors and patterns available. C & J Firearms is also a member of the GLOCK Blue Label Program, which offers discounted rates on GLOCKS to law enforcement officers and various other public safety personnel.

A longtime resident of Frankton, Baldwin says that he is the type that has always tried to support small, hometown businesses. “Having a business in Frankton gives me the opportunity to try and bring people into the town and also gives me the chance to work with people from the community who have become loyal customers,” he said. “We are 100 percent family friendly and encourage our customers to feel



The exterior of C & J Firearms. The store is located at 121 N. Washington Street in downtown Frankton.

comfortable bringing their kids into the store with them .”

Baldwin said that he also tries to bring a celebrity of some type into the store each year so that local Frankton residents have the opportunity to participate in a meet and greet and get to know the celebrity. The business usually donates the proceeds from these events to a local charity or non-profit organization, furthering the business’ positive effect on the community. For more information on C & J Firearms, including its services and firearms for sale, visit its website at [www.cjfirearmsales.com](http://www.cjfirearmsales.com).

# Frankton and IMPA

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For the past several years, the Town of Frankton has employed the services of ISC, the engineering and operations subsidiary of IMPA, to complete many projects that aid in improving the Town's electric system. Because the town does not employ a certified lineworker, ISC serves in that role, and is there whenever the town experiences problems with its distribution system such as power outages. This past winter, the town experienced a severe wind storm, which blew down utility poles and caused much of the town to be without power for some time. ISC was quick to respond, helping to restore Frankton's power and repair and rebuild the utility poles. ISC is also responsible for all of the community's routine electric maintenance ensuring that the town has reliable and affordable electricity.

In addition to partnering with ISC, the Town of Frankton has also taken advantage of IMPA's monthly Second Wednesday program. This program is a free, one-day workshop that is offered to utility personnel and aims to build the skillset of lineworkers, substation workers, meter personnel, engineering staff and customer service specialists. Frankton's Utilities Superintendent, Tim Whitten, has attended each Second Wednesday session, further enhancing his skillset, benefitting the Town of Frankton and its residents. IMPA is proud to be Frankton's wholesale power provider and values the opportunity to assist its member communities in a variety of ways.●

## Tidbits & Trivia

**Question:** Which of the following is a benefit of living in a municipal electric 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 an economic, reliable and environmentally-responsible power supply to its members.

IMPA member utilities purchase their power through 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

-continued from pages 2-3

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.

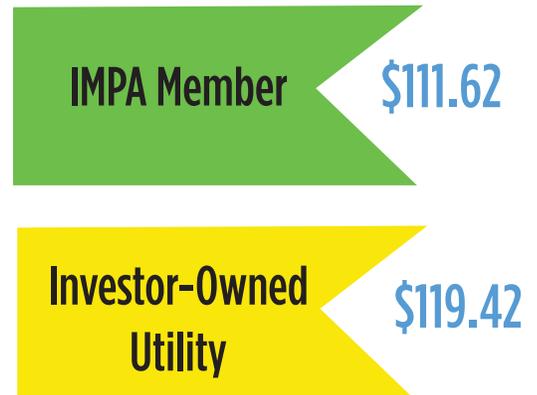
Additionally, a municipally owned utility often provides more reliable power because it is owned by the community that it serves. Whenever there is a problem or a power outage, it is addressed immediately by the employees at the utility. Those employees have a sense of pride and a sense of ownership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

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Advance	Columbia City	Greendale	Middletown	South Whitley
Anderson	Covington	Greenfield	Montezuma	Spiceland
Argos	Crawfordsville	Huntingburg	New Ross	Straughn
Bainbridge	Darlington	Jamestown	Paoli	Tell City
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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	Winamac

## Pecan Pie

Recipe submitted by Gail Norton of Washington, Indiana.

- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup dark Karo syrup
- 2 tsp. 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 cups 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
- 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 cheese

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 Frankton  
Municipal Light and Water.

IMPA Commissioner: Lisa Corey

# Frankton Municipal Utilities Welcomes New Employees

**F**illing the open positions of Utility Laborer, Mike Jones and Bob Moore began working for the town in November and February, respectively. Both positions are full-time and work within all of the town's utilities and departments, which includes electric, water, sewer and street. Jones and Moore assist with a variety of maintenance tasks, which includes mowing and maintaining town property, reading water and electric meters, and helping with general repairs. The Town of Frankton welcomes both Jones and Moore and wishes them both all the best! ●



Pictured here is Mike Jones, one of Frankton's new Utility Laborers.