

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

City of Huntingburg -  
Electric Utility



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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## Expansion to Huntingburg Regional Airport

The Huntingburg Regional Airport has become an integral part of the Huntingburg community since its establishment on the south side of the city in 1938. The airport plays a key role in drawing business and economic development to Huntingburg and has secured millions of dollars in investments to the community. Now, a multiyear plan to add a 500-foot extension to the airport's runway is underway. Once the project is completed, Huntingburg Regional Airport will be capable of providing safer travel to farther destinations, also having a positive impact on the economy since it will better accommodate business travel.

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# Celebrate Lineworkers on April 18th with IMPA

**Y**our municipal utility's lineworkers, the men and women who maintain and repair electric distribution lines, are subject to several hazards every day, and yet their work is essential for your community's power needs. These utility professionals put themselves in harm's way each day to keep the lights on in your community's homes, schools, churches, and businesses, at times subjecting themselves to volatile weather conditions, dangerous heights, and live electrical currents.



The invaluable work that linemen and women commit themselves to often goes underappreciated, which is why the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) is excited to celebrate and promote National Linemen Appreciation Day. Each April 18th, utilities across the United States make an effort to honor the hard work and dedication that lineworkers show to their communities every day of the year. Be sure to follow IMPA's social media pages to celebrate National Linemen Appreciation Day with us and thank your local lineworker for the hard work that they do each day!

## Safety Around Downed Power Lines

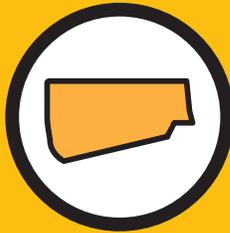
**W**inter ice storms and the stormy spring season can sometimes spell trouble for power lines. Your municipal electric utility wants to ensure that you exercise caution if you happen to be near any downed power lines this year. Follow these steps to stay safe if you see a downed power line:

- Move away from the line and anything that is in contact with the line, as the ground around power lines may be energized up to a 35 foot radius.
- Assume that all downed power lines are energized and dangerous.
- Shuffle with small steps away from the power line, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times to minimize the potential of a strong electrical shock.
- If you see someone who is in contact with the downed line, do not touch this person. Call 911 for help.
- Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything else in contact with one.

# What keeps electrical workers safe?

An array of special gear and equipment keeps crew members safe while working on electrical equipment and lines.

**Rubber sleeves:** Worn over clothes to protect workers from accidental contact with live lines or other equipment.



**Clothing:** Arc rated clothing such as jeans and shirts are made from flame resistant materials and avoid using metal components (buttons, zippers).



**Safety Strap/Harness:** Either connected to the inside of a bucket truck or attached around the pole to prevent falls.



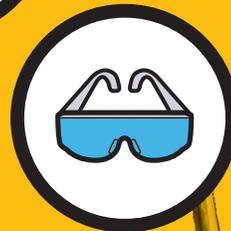
**Rope/Handline:** Includes a pulley and steel clips to assist with lifting and lowering materials and acts as a lifeline in the event of an emergency.



**Boots:** Reinforced steel or ceramic toe, with serrated heels and reinforced sole for support in climbing and working on poles.



**Hard hat:** Insulated and rigid to protect workers from contact with electrical hazards or falling objects. Includes slots for adding in ear protection or face shields, when necessary.



**Glasses:** Keep glare and objects/small debris from workers' eyes.



**Gloves:** Workers wear two layers of gloves. Insulated rubber gloves protect from electric shocks and burns, and an outer pair of leather gloves help keep the rubber gloves from getting punctured or torn.



**Hot stick:** Insulated fiberglass tool used when working with live lines and equipment.



**#PublicPower**

# Solar Power Lights the Way in Huntingburg

In a small project that demonstrates the flexibility and uniqueness of solar power, Huntingburg's housing development, Hunters Crossing, recently installed solar powered lighting to its entrance sign. When the city's utility was contacted by the Hunters Crossing developer to



provide electric supply for lighting around the sign, they realized that running utility lines to the location would be a difficult task. John Reutepohler, Huntingburg's Energy Superintendent, came up with the simpler solution of installing solar powered lighting to accommodate the small-scale request. Now, Hunters Crossing's signage is conveniently brightened by the sun.

While modest lighting, such as that around Hunters Crossing's entrance sign, is easily lit by a moderate number of solar cells, supplying electricity to entire homes or communities through solar power requires much larger investments and spaces. However, the transition to renewable energy through generation facilities, such as solar parks, has become important for electric utilities to consider for the future. Huntingburg's wholesale power provider, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, has been a leader in solar development and construction in Indiana since 2014, collaborating with Huntingburg to establish a solar park in the city in 2016. The Huntingburg solar park is located on 11.02 acres of land and is rated at 2 Megawatts, consisting of 7,884 solar panels. From a small-scale solar cell installation to working with IMPA to advocate for clean power options in Indiana, Huntingburg's power utility remains at the forefront of energy solutions. •



Huntingburg's solar park was established in 2016 and consists of 7,884 solar panels, with a generation capacity of 2 Megawatts.



# Expansion to Airport

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“Right now, we’re working on a component of the project that involves setting a tunnel feature in place that will accommodate travel on CR 200 after the runway expansion is completed,” said Travis McQueen, the Huntingburg Regional Airport Manager. Officials at the airport are proud to ensure access to CR 200 through construction and completion of

the expansion project, as the agricultural industries that frequently use the road are a significant segment of Huntingburg’s economy. “We’re having to relocate almost 3,000 truckloads of dirt to get this milestone accomplished, so we’re hoping that the tunnel will be in place by the end of the year. It will officially be the first tunnel of its kind in the state of Indiana once finished.”

Another component of the project involved relocating utility lines to ensure safe use of the future runway. Huntingburg Regional Airport established an ongoing partnership with the city’s municipal electric utility to transfer the existing power lines to an underground utility system. McQueen said that the electric utility has been a massive help throughout the project, creating a win-win situation for everyone.

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## Tidbits & Trivia

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 provides this wholesale power to 61 communities in Indiana and Ohio. IMPA member utilities purchase their power through IMPA and deliver that power to the residents and companies within your community.

**Question:** How many member communities were a part of IMPA at the Agency’s origination in 1983?

Find out at [impa.com/about-impa](http://impa.com/about-impa)

## Generation Resources

*noun.*

The facilities that produce electricity for distribution and delivery to homes and businesses. Generation resources include coal, nuclear, and natural gas power plants, as well as renewables like solar parks and wind turbines.

Example: *IMPA’s generation resources include a mixture of coal, natural gas, renewable, and purchased power.*



# 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)

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## Kim's Chocolate Chip Cookies

Recipe submitted by Patsy Conolty of Washington, Indiana.

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup butter flavored Crisco
- 2 1/2 cups quick oats
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 12 oz bag of chocolate chips

Combine eggs and sugar and beat until fluffy. Add the Crisco and vanilla and blend until well-mixed. Put quick oats into a blender and blend into a flour. Add blended oats to mixture and add salt, baking soda, baking powder, and flour, and mix well. Mix in chocolate chips. Bake at 350 degrees on a greased sheet for 9 minutes. Let stand for 10 minutes before eating.

## Old-Fashioned, Baked Mac & Cheese

Recipe submitted by Debbie Johnson of Richmond, Indiana

- 2 1/2 cups uncooked macaroni
- 1 3/4 cups Velveta cheese, cubed
- 3 tbsps butter
- 4 cups milk
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Melt butter in a 13" by 9" baking dish. Pour the uncooked macaroni into the baking dish and stir until coated. Add salt, pepper, cheese, and milk to dish. Bake uncovered for 1 1/4 hours to 1 1/2 hours. Do not stir while baking. When finished, the macaroni will be lightly browned on top. Let stand 10 minutes after baking.



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

# Protect Yourself from Utility Scams

Cyber threats, scams, and frauds are an ever-growing threat to all industries, and the utility industry is no exception. Several scams impersonating local utilities and requesting payments or personal information have been reported in Indiana, so knowing how to avoid and elude scammers and cybercriminals is an increasingly necessary skill. Here are some important tips and facts to protect yourself, your family, and your information from utility scammers.

## Telephone Scams

If someone calls threatening to cut off your power, hang up. Never pay over the phone in response to a call, especially when you're threatened with a service disconnection. Scammers know how to spoof caller ID, so do not trust a number even if it shows the name of your municipal utility. Your utility will never demand payment over the phone, so never give personal or financial information to an unsolicited caller.

## Fraudulent Emails

Delete all suspicious emails that demand or require immediate action to verify personal information. Scammers often use the technique of phishing, sending fraudulent emails impersonating a trusted source, to incite individuals to give out personal or financial information. Through these emails, scammers try to rouse a sense of urgency in the victim who will generally be asked to provide sensitive data. If you receive a suspicious email, do not follow instructions given by the sender or click on any provided links.

## Suspicious Third-Party Payments

Online utility bill pay is a convenience to many residents and businesses. Unfortunately, scammers are aware that more and more individuals are utilizing these web payment portals and are seeking to take advantage. Some cybercriminals are directing customers to third party payment websites to steal money and financial information from victims. If your utility offers an online payment option, be sure that the website you are using is directly affiliated with the utility. To be safe, contact your municipal utility and talk to them about the appropriate online payment website.

The most common security threats are committed by phone, by email, and by suspicious websites. If you feel that a scammer has contacted you, immediately stop your communication with them and contact your municipal utility to report the issue.

\*information from the American Public Power Association



The Municipal Power News is published by the  
Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the City of  
Huntingburg - Electric Utility.

IMPA Commissioner: John Reutepohler

## Expansion to Airport

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“We’re very appreciative of the hard work that the electric utility has done for us. Throughout the entire process, they’ve been cooperative and timely. John Reutepohler [Huntingburg’s Energy Superintendent] has been with us every step of the way, and his assistance makes the entire project run smoothly.”

The manufacturing industries that often utilize the airport contribute to another significant portion of the city’s economy, and the runway expansion will provide these local companies with an even better tool to attract business. Local corporations that already utilize the airport include Kimball, OFS Brands, Jasper Engines and Transmissions, MasterBrand, and Best Home Furnishings. The airport serves as a tool for these corporations to conveniently bring potential customers in for tours of manufacturing facilities and face-to-face meetings. With the 500-foot runway extension, the airport will be able to attract even more customers, and possibly more industries, to the local area. ●

