

MUNICIPAL

POWER NEWS

Town of Jamestown



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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Bobby Taylor, Jr. joins Jamestown Utilities as the new Superintendent.

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Personnel Changes for the Town of Jamestown

Following November's election, the Town of Jamestown welcomed three new Town Council members: Shane Childress, John Fultz and Chassity Hawkins. Fultz was appointed to serve as the Council president, and will stay in that role until 2017. All three individuals are new to the Jamestown City Council.

In addition to the new Council members, Jamestown also welcomes Bobby Taylor, Jr. and Larry Baker to the town staff. Taylor will serve as Jamestown's new Superintendent of Utilities, a role that

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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.

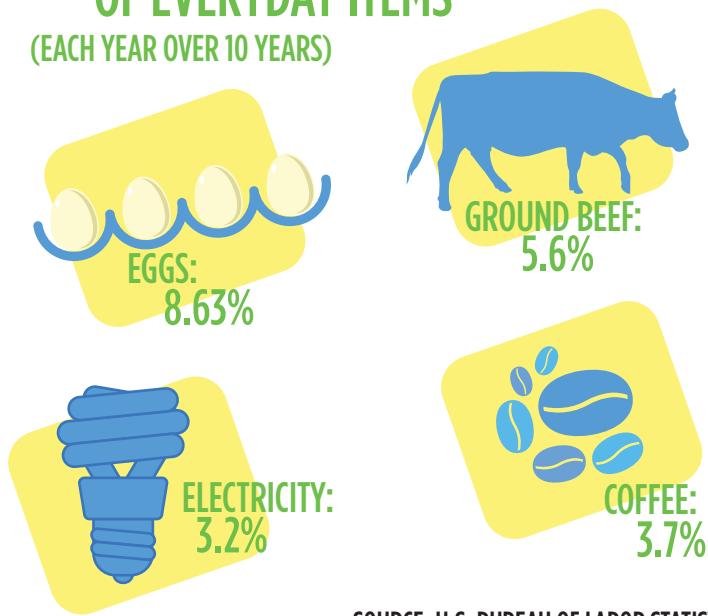
Cost Calculation of Electricity

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

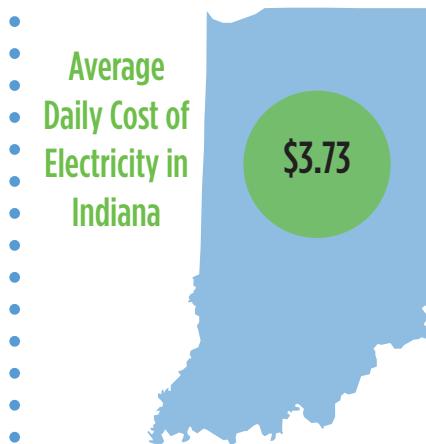
average month, the average cost of electricity per day in Indiana is only \$3.73. That means that you are able to do laundry, prepare meals, watch television, charge smart phones, tablets and laptops, and complete a variety of other tasks at any time of the day or night, all for less than \$5 a day. 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

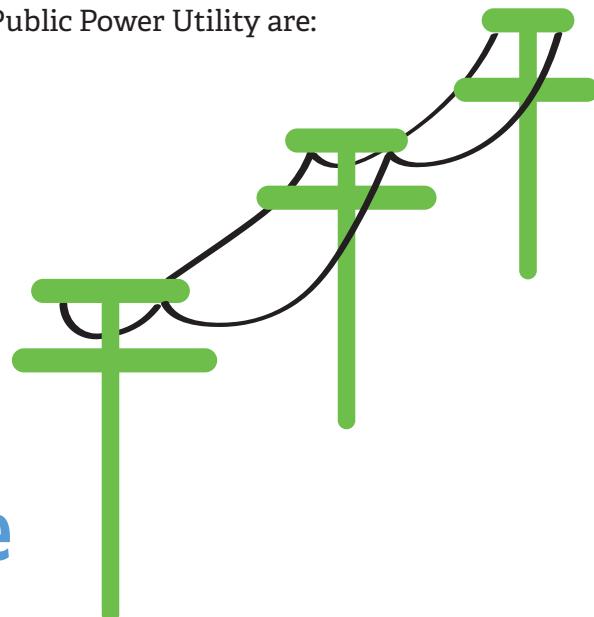


Electricity's average annual price increase is even more impressive when the amount of new technology and the energy it takes to power those devices is taken into consideration. While the advent and invention of new technology has been rapid over the past decade, the cost of electricity has not jumped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

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he is familiar with. Taylor worked for the town in the same capacity for two years, before working for the Boone County Highway Department throughout the last year. In his position as Superintendent of Utilities, Taylor is responsible for overseeing the water and electric utilities as well as the street department. Taylor is a Journeyman Lineman and also plans to work towards receiving his water certification as well.

Larry Baker was recently hired to serve as Jamestown's wastewater operator. He is well-versed in this role, and has over 15 years of experience as a wastewater operator. "This is the first time in more than two years that the Town of Jamestown has been fully staffed," stated Katie Conyer, Jamestown's Clerk-Treasurer. "Hiring Bobby and Larry means that we now have enough hands on deck to complete many of the projects that have been on the back burner." Taylor began his duties as Superintendent of Utilities on March 7th and Baker on March 21st. The Town of Jamestown welcomes the new staff and Council members and wishes them all the best! ●

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-Katie Conyer, Clerk-Treasurer

Town of Jamestown Implements New Billing Software

After years of using the same antiquated software, the Town of Jamestown has upgraded its billing software to reflect changes in technology and customer preferences. The billing software, called Mega Systems, was developed in 1996, and had not had a major upgrade since that time. Due to its age, the system was very slow, and did not work efficiently with newer computer models. The software also lacked certain other convenient features.

This billing software is used on a daily basis for a wide variety of tasks, including monthly utility bills, tracking accounts payable and receivables, and writing checks. Now that the software is updated, the town will see a greater efficiency when completing these necessary duties.

"This software will provide a huge benefit, both for assisting me with my job as well as for the town," commented Katie Conyer, Jamestown's Clerk-Treasurer. "Now that we've updated the software, it runs a lot faster and is also a lot more intuitive. We will be able to do everything a lot faster, and will be able to provide a higher level of customer service than before."

In addition to providing a much more efficient experience, the software is also compatible with automatic meter reading systems, which the town hopes to install and implement this year. "Now that we have this updated software, all we have to do is actually install the new water and electric meters," commented Conyer. "Having automatic meter reads would be huge for Jamestown. Currently, we have a meter reader who goes out and reads the meters and brings the information back to the office. The whole process takes about five days. With automatic meter readers, it would take about four hours." The town has 533 electric meters that need to be converted, and an additional 486 water meters that will be converted in the future. The Town plans to install the electric meters first, and then begin on the water meters.●

Celebrate Indiana's Bicentennial!

In an effort to celebrate Indiana's Bicentennial all year long, IMPA is bringing readers of the *Municipal Power News* fun facts about Indiana history. Read on to learn more about the Hoosier state.

In October 1824, a group of state officials loaded four spring wagons and moved the state capital from Corydon to Indianapolis, which was a distance of more than 130 miles. The journey took 11 days.

Indiana's Statehouse was built at its present site in 1835. The building was demolished in 1878 to make way for the current Capitol Building, which was completed in 1888.



Indiana has 16 million acres of farmland, which makes up 70 percent of all state land.

Source: Indiana Department of Education

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

IMPA Member

\$111.62

Investor-Owned Utility

\$119.42

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 or 11610 N. College Ave.; Carmel, IN 46032.

The newsletters are also available online! To receive your newsletter electronically, visit 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

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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Pecan Pie

Recipe submitted by Gail Norton of Washington, Indiana.

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

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

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.

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	Winamac



The Municipal Power News is published by the Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the Town of Jamestown.

IMPA Commissioner: Wayne Henry

Save Energy This Spring!

As the warmer months approach, here are a few tips to help save energy during the spring months:

- Schedule regular maintenance for your cooling equipment
- Vacuum registers regularly to remove any dust buildup. Ensure that furniture and other objects are not blocking the airflow through your registers.

- Avoid placing lamps or TV sets near your room air-conditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the air conditioner to run longer than necessary.
- If you use air conditioning, a ceiling fan will allow you to raise the thermostat settings about 4 degrees F with no reduction in comfort.

The best way to reduce your electric bill is to do everything you can to make your home more energy efficient. ●