

Municipal Power News



Town of Jamestown

Volume 28, Issue 1 | Spring 2023

History of Jamestown Municipal Utility

Jamestown was one of the first communities in Indiana to own a municipal electric utility, forming Jamestown Municipal Utilities by the turn of the 20th century and becoming a pioneer in public power as electricity was just getting its start. At the time, most of the United States was still lighting their homes and businesses with gas light and candles, as the practical incandescent lightbulb had only been invented by Thomas Edison a decade or so prior. However, Jamestown was leading the way in providing power to residents and local businesses within the community. This monumental step to bring power to Jamestown played an integral role in the town's growth and success in the following decades, and the community's retention of municipal ownership over its utility was key in this success.

A lifetime later, Jamestown leaders understood the value that their local electric utility provided to the community and sought to preserve the utility as best as they could looking towards the future. At the time, municipal utilities in Indiana like Jamestown's purchased their wholesale

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Winter storm reminds the utility industry of the importance of reliability.

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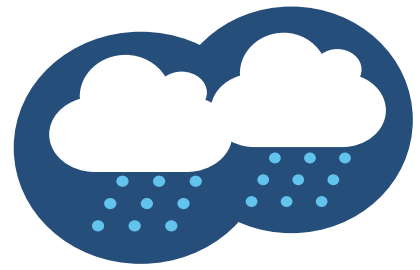
Give your answer for a chance to win a prize from IMPA!

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See how readers of the newsletter responded to this question.

IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott



From December 22 to the 26 of 2022, Winter Storm Elliott swept across North America, causing record low temperatures and severe winter conditions throughout the United States. Snowfall, ice, and blizzard-like conditions blew through much of the Midwest while hazardous road conditions kept many of us hunkered down inside through the holidays. During these days of sub-zero temperatures, approximately 1.5 million utility customers throughout the country lost power (according to www.poweroutage.us).

Fortunately, Indiana utility customers were only a small portion of those without power, and the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) worked diligently with neighboring utilities and the state's Regional Transmission Organizations to ensure the reliability of the power grid. IMPA's seven combustion turbines—totaling 249 megawatts (MW) of capacity in Anderson, Indiana, and Richmond, Indiana—were staffed and operational through the winter storm. The Anderson and Richmond units are run by IMPA employees who worked day and night through December's winter storm to ensure power was delivered to utility customers. These units,

which primarily run on natural gas and are built to operate in temperatures down to -20 degrees Fahrenheit, are a vital dispatchable resource in extreme weather events due to their capability to utilize ultra-low sulfur No. 2 fuel oil as a backup. The backup fuel allowed the units to run and provide power during the whole severe winter weather event.

Other staff members who were out in the field during the cold weather event included IMPA Service Corp's linemen and operations employees who responded to outages in member communities. During Winter Storm Elliott, IMPA Service Corp's crews responded to eight IMPA member communities to assist with power restoration to keep utility customers warm in their homes.

IMPA is grateful to the dedicated staff members who braved the historic winter conditions to ensure the rest of us could remain safe and warm at home. The Agency's reliability, whether during a typical day or an extreme period of uncertainty, is its upmost priority. Now, as we head toward the warmer weather of spring, IMPA looks forward to continuing its legacy of reliable operations and excellent electric service for all member communities. •

How Does Reliable Electricity Reach Me?

Your power is unique as it is distributed not by a for-profit electric utility, but rather by your municipally-owned, locally controlled electric utility. Your municipal electric utility—also known as a “public power” utility—receives its power from the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, a not-for-profit organization created by 61 public power utilities in the Midwest. This is where your electricity begins!

STEP 1

IMPA is the wholesale power provider to your community, meaning that it produces or purchases electricity (depending on what is most economically advantageous) and transmits that energy to your local utility. IMPA's power supply portfolio is made up of coal, natural gas, solar, wind, and nuclear energy. By providing its member communities with power from multiple sources, IMPA can maintain stable costs.

STEP 2

Once the power is generated, no matter from which type of resource, a set of equipment located within a substation is used to “step up” the electricity's voltage. A higher voltage means that the electricity can travel longer distances over high-voltage transmission lines with lower energy losses.



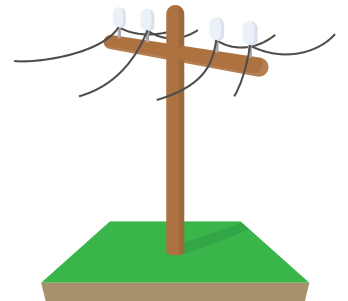
STEP 3

Once “stepped-up,” the electricity is sent along transmission lines, allowing it to reach IMPA's member communities. IMPA jointly owns a portion of the state's transmission system, which covers about 2/3 of Indiana.



STEP 4

Once the electricity reaches a community like yours, it is “stepped down” by a local substation, bringing the power to a lower voltage that will allow it to travel on your local community's distribution power lines.



STEP 5

The power then travels along local distribution lines owned by your public power utility to reach homes and businesses in the community.



Tidbits & Trivia

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 provides this wholesale power to 61 communities in Indiana and Ohio, who collectively make up the Agency's membership.

Question: What is one benefit of driving an electric vehicle rather than a gas-powered car?



Send your answer to newsletter@impa.com, along with your name, e-mail address, and address for a chance to win an energy efficiency prize pack!

Reader Survey

Is there more about your community that you would like to know? Do you have questions about how public power or your municipally-owned utility works? Would you like to learn more tips and tricks as to how you can improve your home's energy efficiency?

Reach out to newsletter@impa.com to suggest topics for future *Municipal Power News* newsletters and let us know what articles you enjoy most, and what you'd like to see next!



History of Utility

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power supply from investor-owned utilities to then distribute the power to the community. Unfortunately, their small size kept them vulnerable to the changing energy market and the control of investor-owned utilities. However, by the early 1980's, Jamestown utility leaders had formed a group with 25 other municipalities that owned their electric utility to discuss the development of a joint action agency—a not-for-profit organization that would allow these utilities to gain economies of scale, sharing generation resources and purchased power at a mutually beneficial low cost.

By 1983, state legislation had passed authorizing the creation of the joint action agency, and the Indiana Municipal Power



to participate in the creation of IMPA, allowing both the long-term success of the town and the Agency. Henry even served as Chairman of IMPA's Board of Commissioners between 2004 and 2007 and represented the town as an IMPA commissioner until his retirement in 2011. His long-term commitment to public power is reflective of Jamestown's dedication as a whole, leading IMPA and the town to today. This year, IMPA reached the milestone anniversary of 40 years, meaning that the electric provider has supplied low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible power for four strong decades.

These two public power utilities continue working together to supply the best possible electric service to residents and business owners in Jamestown. IMPA has grown to a membership of 61 municipal utilities, with members in both Indiana and Ohio, who all work together to bring a bright future to their communities. With this atmosphere of camaraderie and diligence, we can all look forward to the years ahead. •



What's the Word?

Gas Turbine Plant

noun

A facility which uses natural gas or other liquid fuels to power a combustion turbine and generate electricity. The first true gas turbine was patented in 1791!

IMPA owns seven combustion turbines and associated facilities totaling 419 MW in the aggregate. These include three units in Anderson, IN, two near Richmond, IN, and two in Indianapolis, IN. IMPA employees operate and maintain the combustion turbines located in Anderson and Richmond, while the plant in Indianapolis is operated and maintained under a contract with a separate utility that has two other units at the same facility.

Cooking Corner

Broccoli Casserole

Recipe submitted by Kimberly of Paoli, Indiana

- 2 lbs broccoli, frozen or cooked
- 1 roll ritz crackers, crumbled
- 1/2 lb velveeta, cubed
- 1 stick butter divided in half

Cook broccoli according to package directions. Add velveeta and 1/2 stick butter. Cook until melted. Butter a 2 qt casserole dish. Pour broccoli into casserole dish. Pour crumbled crackers on top. Melt remaining 1/2 stick butter and pour on crackers. Bake on 350 degrees for 30 minutes and enjoy!

White Mountain Salad

Recipe submitted by Jean of Middletown, Indiana

- 1 small can crushed pineapple (in juice)
- 1 can chopped pecans
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 eight oz tub cool whip (thawed)
- 1 can Eagle brand milk

In a large bowl, stir all ingredients together. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours.

“When I take this recipe to a dinner, I always get several requests for the recipe!” - Jean

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 61 communities that it serves with wholesale power.

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How Do I Save Energy in Hot Weather?

Last year, we asked *Municipal Power News* readers, “What are some of the methods you use to reduce your energy consumption in hot weather?” Here’s what Kenneth had to say!

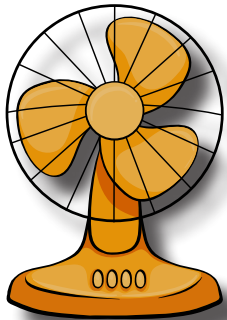
“Our answer at home is to close the drapes, blinds, and try to cook with the air fryer, microwave, or outside on the grill instead of using the stove or oven on the really hot days. We’ve already purchased new thermo sliding glass doors with blinds and low-e ratings. We’ve also spray-foamed the basement

walls and the underside of the roof. For a 1964 house, we feel pretty efficient.

At work, we try to close the blinds and raise the thermostat a degree or two. We also bought two digital smart thermostats and replaced the old mercury bulb sliders.”

-Kenneth E

That’s a great answer, full of energy efficiency tips! Below are a few other ways you and your family can save on energy this summer.



Energy Efficiency Tip #1

Use fans around your home to circulate cool air. Set ceiling fans to turn counter clockwise, as this will push air down and create a cooler feeling in the room.

Energy Efficiency Tip #2

Replace air filters in your home with each season. Dirty air filters can cause your system to work harder and longer, using unnecessary energy as a result.



Energy Efficiency Tip #3

Keep lamps and TV sets away from your thermostat. Thermostats can sense the heat that these items give off, which can cause the A/C to run longer than required.



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IMPA Commissioner: Josh Hawkins

Pay Utility Bills Online

Jamestown's utility is happy to provide customers with the option to pay their bills online, in the comfort of their own home. However, town officials want to ensure that customers are doing so safely, protecting their personal and financial information.

Remember that the only verified way to pay your utility bills online is through the town's website at www.jamestownin.com. The home page on the town's website displays a secure link to making online payments, entitled "Utility Bill Pay." Following the steps presented on the Jamestown website will ensure that your utility payments are kept confidential and reach the utility office in a timely manner.

In general, it is always advisable to be cautious when making any purchases or payments online. Never share personal information in response to unsolicited emails or calls, never click on links or attachments from suspicious emails, and only pay bills on a secure network (such as your private home's Wi-Fi). Following these best practices will keep your personal and financial information as safe as possible.

If you have comments or questions about utility payments, please contact the town office by calling (765) 676-6331. •