

Municipal Power News



Greendale Utilities
Volume 28, Issue 1 | Summer 2023



High Internet Speeds Come to Greendale

In November of 2021, a telecommunications company that provides high-speed internet services in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana officially partnered with the city of Greendale to develop the community's connectivity to improved internet. Now, as the project's implementation nears its two-year anniversary, approximately 98% of the city has access to high-speed fiber internet. City leaders are thrilled to see the progress as providing locals with better internet has been a long-term goal for several years.

Fiber optic technology provides the fastest internet speeds on the market today, transferring information by beaming light through thin strands of optical glass fiber. These thin strands of fiber are contained in a larger protective cable to allow for reliable service. High internet speeds are considered a critical component of a community's overall infrastructure as we collectively march through the digital age. With help from the telecommunications company, all Greendale residents and businesses will soon have the ability to access up to 1 Gigabit (GB) speeds, which is one of the fastest tiers of internet speeds currently available.

Mayor Alan Weiss has been concerned with improving internet speeds in Greendale since the very beginning of his mayorship.

-continued on page 4

Inside this Issue

Page 2

IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott
Winter storm reminds the utility industry of the importance of reliability.

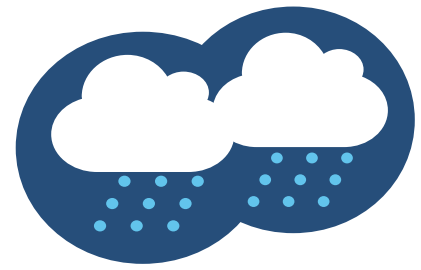
Page 4

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

Page 7

How Do I Save Energy in Hot Weather?
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.



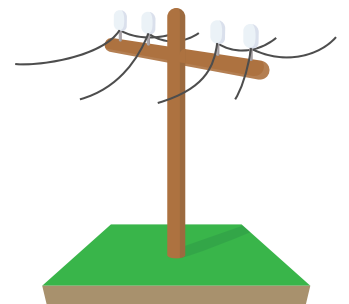
STEP 3

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!



Utility Office

Internet Speeds

-continued from page 1

“Before starting this project, the internet in our city was terribly slow, and Greendale citizens consistently expressed that access to reliable, high-speed internet was a priority when it comes to the local quality of life,” said Mayor Weiss. “This has been a real success story and collaboration between several community members, including the city attorney Anthony Smart, former Redevelopment Director Al Abdon, former City Manager Steve Lampert, Utility Director Shawn Guidace, and involved resident Ryan Goode.”

Though better internet connectivity has been a high priority for the city for years now, the COVID-19 pandemic made it more apparent how important internet access is in today's world. For months, workers and students were attempting to access their job



Follow IMPA on Social Media!



Indiana Municipal
Power Agency



@impapower



@ImpaPower



Indiana Municipal
Power Agency

or school remotely, and slow internet speeds were cumbersome to many in Greendale as they tried to cope with staying at home. While virtual meeting platforms, such as Google Meet, Zoom, and Teams, became staples of many remote jobs and school classes, poor internet access throughout Dearborn County prevented thousands of local individuals from being able to effectively use these tools.

Due to these specific challenges, the city of Greendale partnered with the Lawrenceburg Community School Corporation (LCSC) and the Greendale Redevelopment Commission in 2020 to request grant funding to improve internet infrastructure throughout the county. A \$625,000 grant was awarded to them through Indiana's Department of Education, all of

-continued on page 8

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.

Editor: Niki Dick
Senior Director of Marketing Communications

Correspondent:
Whitney Hicks
Communications Coordinator

MEMBERS

Advance
Anderson
Argos
Bainbridge
Bargersville
Blanchester, OH
Bremen
Brooklyn
Brookston
Centerville
Chalmers
Coatesville
Columbia City

Covington
Crawfordsville
Darlington
Dublin
Dunreith
Edinburgh
Etna Green
Flora
Frankfort
Frankton
Gas City
Greendale
Greenfield

Huntingburg
Jamestown
Jasper
Kingsford Heights
Knightstown
Ladoga
Lawrenceburg
Lebanon
Lewisville
Linton
Middletown
Montezuma
New Ross

Paoli
Pendleton
Peru
Pittsboro
Rensselaer
Richmond
Rising Sun
Rockville
Scottsburg
South Whitley
Spiceland
Straughn
Tell City

Thorntown
Tipton
Troy
Veedersburg
Walkerton
Washington
Waynetown
Williamsport
Winamac

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!

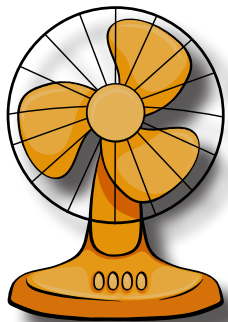
“Our answer at home is to close the drapes, blinds, and try to cook with the air fryer, microwave, or outside on the grill instead of using the stove or oven on the really hot days. We’ve already purchased new thermo sliding glass doors with blinds and low-e ratings. We’ve also spray-foamed the basement

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.

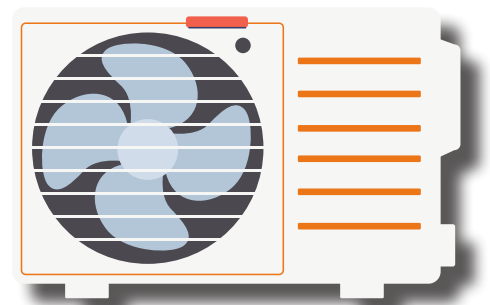


Energy Efficiency Tip #1

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.

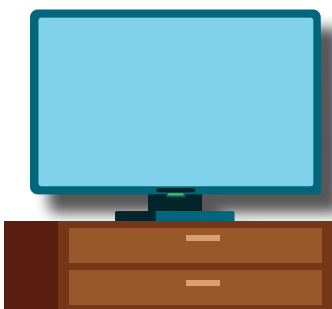
Energy Efficiency Tip #2

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.



Indiana Municipal Power Agency
11610 N. College Ave.
Carmel, IN 46032

PRE-SORTED
STANDARD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Indianapolis, IN
Permit # 9555

The Municipal Power News is published
by the Indiana Municipal Power
Agency and Greendale Utilities.

IMPA Commissioner: Mayor Alan Weiss

Internet Speeds

-continued from page 5

which is being used toward the current fiber optic project in Greendale. With approximately 1,000 LCSC students and up to 250 school staff members living in the city of Greendale, the Lawrenceburg school will be better served through the community's efforts to improve internet access.

"We are all looking forward to the fiber optic project wrapping up and providing everyone with high internet speeds," said Mayor Weiss. "It wasn't an easy project to take under our wing, but the effort will pay off once everyone has access. This will ensure that our community is able to stay connected with the ever growing world around it." •

