Municipal Power News

IMPA

City of Huntingburg - Electric Utility

Volume 28, Issue 1 | Summer 2023

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Community Awarded INDOT Grant

This spring, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) announced that the city of Huntingburg would be a recipient of a $73,501 Community Crossings grant for the purpose of rehabilitating streets in the community. INDOT's Community Crossings program was established in 2016 and partners with Hoosier communities to finance improvements on roads and bridges in Indiana communities. Strengthening local transportation networks can help these communities bring on economic development opportunities, create jobs, and make towns and cities safer for their residents.

Huntingburg isn't the only local community to benefit from the program, either. The nearby communities of Dale, Jasper, and Ferdinand were given funding, as well as Dubois County as a whole. These local successes show that the INDOT program is imperative for the infrastructure of many Hoosier communities. Soon, city leaders will be able to use the funding to repave damaged roads and improve accessibility to pedestrians.

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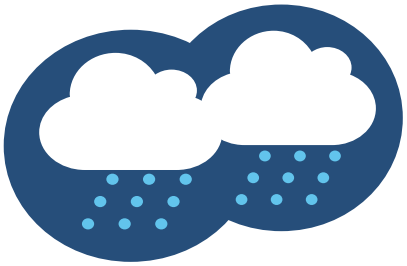
IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott



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

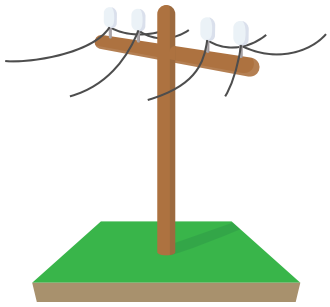
Once the power is generated, no matter from which type of resource, a set of equipment located within a substation is used to "step up" the electricity's voltage. A higher voltage means that the electricity can travel longer distances over high-voltage transmission lines with lower energy losses.

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!

Community Awarded INDOT Grant

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As a community with fewer than 10,000 residents, Huntingburg will only be required to match 25% of the project costs that come about as a result of INDOT's award—a comparatively phenomenal rate to other matching grant programs. The city joins 224 other towns, cities, and counties on the list of recipients, who altogether received over $130 million in funding.

The Community Crossings grant plays a large part in Governor Eric Holcomb's overall Next Level Agenda development plan, which focuses on economic development, education, public health, community development, and government service.

"The continued success of the Community Crossings program becomes

more evident each year," said Governor Eric Holcomb in a news release regarding the awards. "Improving transportation infrastructure at the most local level makes communities that much more attractive for business and Hoosier families alike to connect and grow."•

Huntingburg Solar Park

While the Huntingburg Solar Park provides electricity to the community each day, the generation facility is still subject to weather and time of day. The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) tracks the amount of power generated by each of its 44 facilities on its website, where users can view the 1-day, 5-day, and 30-day graph of generated solar power in each town or city. With summer just heating up, the amount of daylight hours per day continues to increase. With an

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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.

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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Cooking Corner

Broccoli Casserole

Recipe submitted by Kimberly of Paoli, Indiana

- 2 lbs broccoli, frozen or cooked
- 1/2 lb velveeta, cubed
- 1 roll ritz crackers, crumbled
- 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)
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 can Eagle brand milk
- 1 can chopped pecans
- 1 eight oz tub cool whip (thawed)

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

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How Do I Save Energy in Hot Weather?

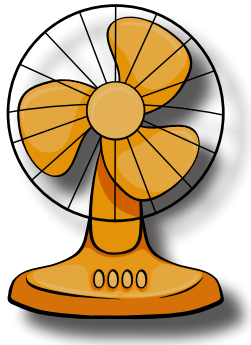
Last year, we asked *Municipal Power News* readers, "What are some of the methods you use the reduce your energy consumption in hot weather?" Here's what Kenneth had to say!

"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.

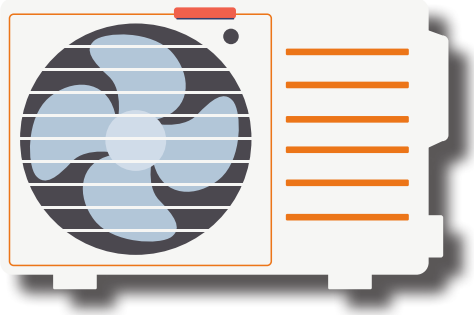


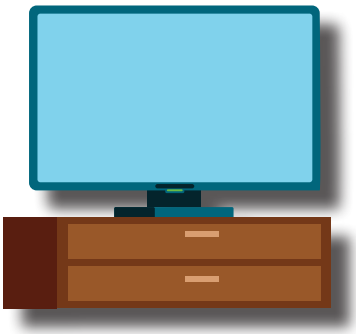
Energy Efficiency Tip #1

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 unecessary 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: John Reutepohler

Huntingburg Solar Park

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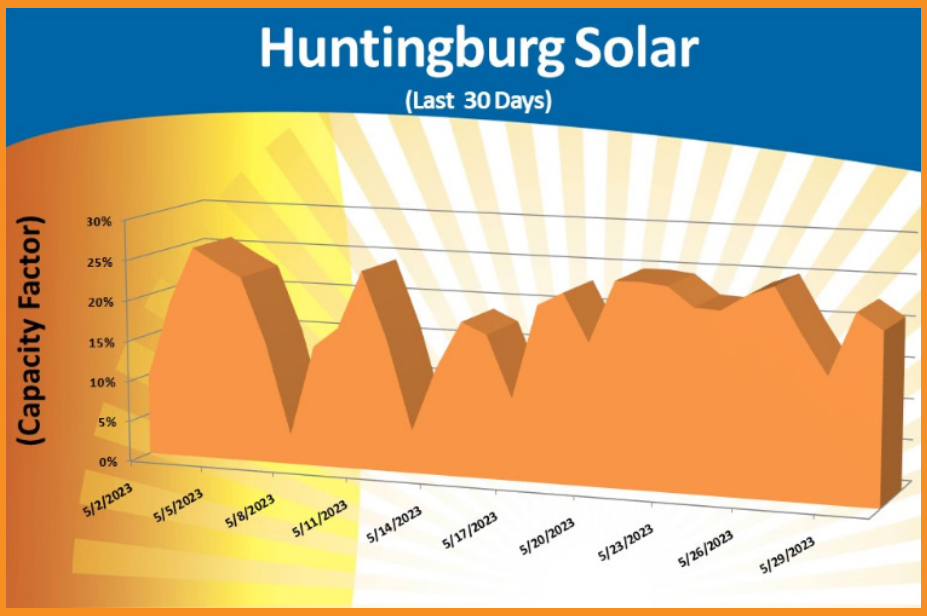
increase in the average amount of sunshine, Huntingburg's solar panels are exposed to more sunlight, allowing the solar park to generate more energy through the warmer seasons. The corresponding graph shows how much power the city's solar park was able to generate through the month of May as we gained more daylight each day.



To learn more about IMPA and the organization's solar parks, visit www.impa.com/solar.