Municipal Power News

IMPA

Lewisville Municipal Utilities

Volume 28, Issue 1 | Spring 2023

Inside this Issue

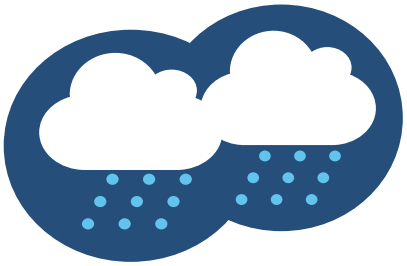
AMI Implemented in Lewisville

In collaboration with the town's wholesale power provider, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), Lewisville's municipally-owned utility has gradually been implementing Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) since May of 2021. AMI is an integrated system of innovative metering technologies, communications networks, and data management systems that enables two-way communication between utilities and customers' meters. AMI also offers software that shows a meter and outage map, so that the utility can monitor the system, pinpoint the location of outages and other electric issues, and access customer usage data. While the local utility has experienced the benefits of AMI for a couple of years now, a few meters are still being replaced with the new technology, including some that were swapped out late last year.

With a vast majority of meters upgraded, Lewisville leaders have seen the advantages of AMI play out in real time. Since these advanced meters can both send and receive information, Lewisville's utility personnel can now read utility meters remotely, which provides labor savings and

-continued on page 4

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

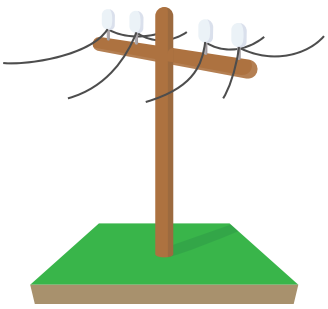
Once the power is generated, no matter from which type of resource, a set of equipment located within a substation is used to "step up" the electricity's voltage. A higher voltage means that the electricity can travel longer distances over high-voltage transmission lines with lower energy losses.

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!

AMI Implemented

-continued from page 1

more accurate billing and customer data. AMI also monitors the electric distribution system and immediately sends notifications to the utility if issues like a power outage or interruption occur. With the map view of customers that AMI supplies, utility personnel can see the precise location of any issues and send workers out to the exact location of the problem, rather than having to estimate problem areas. In this way, AMI helps utilities work more efficiently, saving time and money.

"The AMI system has been a great asset to our town since it was mostly implemented by the end of 2021," said Jayana Posey, Lewisville Clerk-Treasurer and IMPA Commissioner. "Because of the system, we're now able to be alerted about power supply interruptions, and it's simplified many of our utility tasks."

Most of Lewisville's metering infrastructure has been converted with the help of IMPA's engineering and operations subsidiary, IMPA Service Corp. Since the subsidiary launched its AMI program in 2019, 14 of IMPA's member communities have signed up for the program, including other Henry County communities such as Knightstown and Straughn. As with many IMPA Service Corp programs, Lewisville and the 13 other participating IMPA member communities cost-share much of the software, server hosting, startup training, metering and outage maps, system monitoring, and utility usage information that is required for AMI implementation.

Many of these communities, including Lewisville, are also members of IMPA Service Corp's Dedicated Services program. This program provides the town with routine electric distribution services, including vegetation management, power line and infrastructure maintenance, and outage restoration. With AMI implemented, the lineworkers with Dedicated Services are able to more accurately monitor Lewisville's electric system and react quickly when power quality issues are found.

With the help of IMPA, Lewisville can continue to achieve state-of-the-art services and technologies at a cost-effective rate—ensuring that the community has a bright future.•

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

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

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

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?

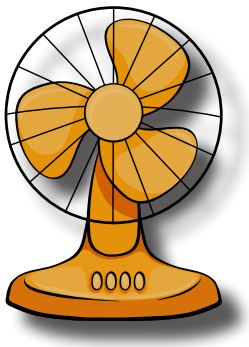
Last year, we asked *Municipal Power News* readers, "What are some of the methods you use the reduce your energy consumption in hot weather?" Here's what Kenneth had to say!

"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.

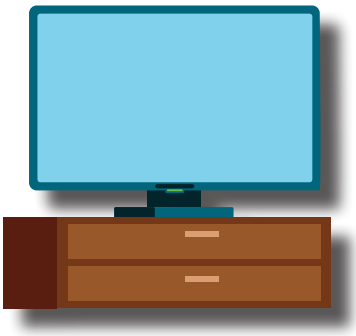


Energy Efficiency Tip #1

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.

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

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

IMPA Commissioner: Jayana Posey

What to Do if You See a Downed Power Line

With the storms of spring and summer in full swing, it's always great to remember what to do in case you ever come across a downed power line. Most importantly, you should always assume that any power line is live and dangerous. Power lines can energize the ground up to 35-feet in diameter—that's about three car lengths! And if the ground around it is wet, that diameter can increase in size. Do the following to keep you and your loved ones safe in case of a downed power line:

- Immediately call 911 to report a downed line
- Never try to move a downed line or drive over it—do not make contact of any kind
- If your vehicle comes into contact with a downed power line, tell others to stay away and call emergency services—do not exit the vehicle unless you see smoke or fire
- If you must walk around or away from a downed power line, walk with your feet together and shuffle away, avoiding lifting your feet.
- Do not touch the ground and anything in contact with a downed power line at the same time

Information found on www.esfi.org.•