

Municipal Power News



Rising Sun Municipal Utilities

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New IMPA Commissioner for Rising Sun

On May 19, Brandon Cappel was appointed to be Rising Sun's new commissioner for the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA). IMPA is Rising Sun's not-for-profit, wholesale power provider, supplying electricity to 61 member communities throughout the Midwest. Like public schools and libraries, public power utilities such as Rising Sun's are owned by the community and run as a division of local government. Governed by a local city or town council or an elected or appointed board, community citizens have a direct voice in utility decisions, including the rates it charges and its sources of electricity. Since IMPA is a non-profit organization owned and governed by its member communities, the community of Rising Sun also has a say in the direction of their wholesale power provider through an IMPA Commissioner.

This spring, IMPA welcomed Brandon Cappel into the Commissioner role for the city of Rising Sun. Cappel is well acquainted with Rising Sun's community

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

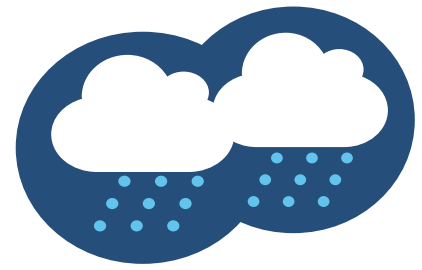
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IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott



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.



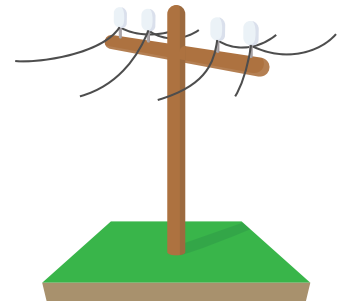
STEP 3

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!



IMPA Commissioner

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and electric utility as a lineworker for the city. In his role with the local utility, Cappel works to ensure residents and business owners have access to reliable electricity by maintaining the city's electric infrastructure, including utility poles, power lines, substations, and more. Cappel is also known in the community for winning 1st place in the local "Light Up Ohio County Holiday Decorating Contest" in 2020!

Just like all IMPA commissioners, Cappel was appointed by his community's governing body to represent his city to IMPA, acting as a two-way communicator between the community and the Agency. As Rising Sun's IMPA commissioner, Cappel will participate and vote in monthly board meetings that guide the direction of IMPA. This representation is just one of the many



Brandon Cappel (middle) takes the IMPA Oath of Office to become commissioner.

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benefits of having a municipally-owned power utility.

“From southern communities like Rising Sun, to northern towns like Argos and Bremen, the diversity of our Board of Commissioners is one of IMPA’s greatest strengths,” said Jack Alvey, President and CEO of IMPA. “We are glad to welcome Brandon to the Board as we continue our relationship with Rising Sun and serving our municipal electric communities.”•



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!

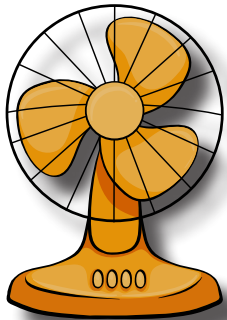
“Our answer at home is to close the drapes, blinds, and try to cook with the air fryer, microwave, or outside on the grill instead of using the stove or oven on the really hot days. We’ve already purchased new thermo sliding glass doors with blinds and low-e ratings. We’ve also spray-foamed the basement

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.

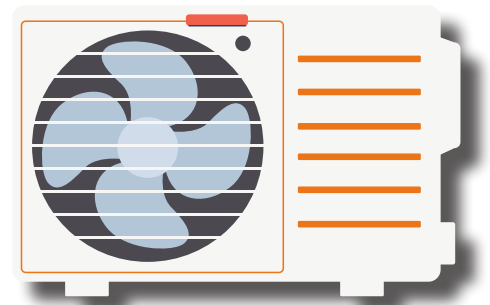


Energy Efficiency Tip #1

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.

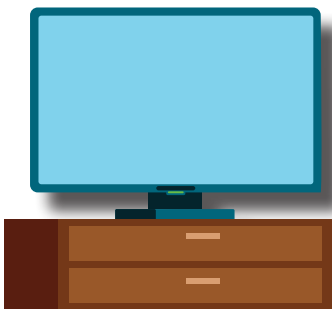
Energy Efficiency Tip #2

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: Brandon Cappel

Utility Offers Automated Payments

For interested residents and businesses, Rising Sun provides an option for utility expenses to be automatically withdrawn from a customer's banking account. Many find that automated payments are a convenient way to ensure that bills get paid in full and on time each month. In an effort to optimize monthly billing, Rising Sun Municipal Utilities is proud to offer this free service to those in the community.

To enroll in the automatic payment service, called ACH payments by the utility, visit the utility office at 200 N Walnut Street and pick up an authorization form. Customers must fill out the form and attach a voided check before returning to Rising Sun Municipal Utilities to become enrolled. With the first month of registration being considered a trial month, it will take until the second month thereafter for your bill to be automatically withdrawn on the 10th. If you would like more information on the service, please call the utility office at (812) 438-3616. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm. •

